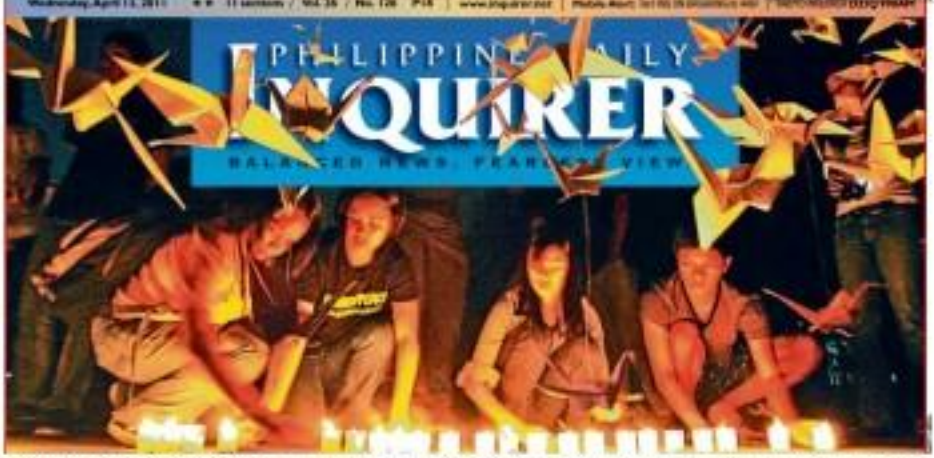
Wednesday, April 13, 2011 | 44 sections / Vol. 36 / No. 128 / P18 | www.inquirer.net | Mobile Alert: Text REG ON INQUIRER to 4483 | TWO-WEEKEND EXTRAVAGANZA!

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS. FEARLESS VIEW



PEACE AND HARMONY OF A THOUSAND CRANES Even nonmoral activists from Bayanihan light candles under hanging paper cranes created by origami. One Japanese art of paper folding, during a vigil at the Bantayog ng mga Bayani in Quezon City to mark the first month since the deadly triple calamity of earthquake, tsunami and nuclear disaster that devastated northeastern Japan. A thousand cranes signify peace.

Japan nuke alert up to highest level, like Chernobyl

TOKYO—Japan raised the severity level of the crisis at its crippled nuclear plant on Tuesday to rank it on par with the 1986 Chernobyl disaster, citing cumulative radiation leaks contaminating the air, crop waters, vegetables and seawater.

Japanese nuclear regulators said the rating was being raised from 5 to 7—the highest level on an international scale overseen by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)—after new assessments of radiation leaks from the Fukushima Daiichi plant since it was disabled by the March 11 tremors.

The new ranking signifies a "major accident" that includes widespread effects on the environment and health, according to the Vienna-based IAEA.

However, Japanese officials have played down any health effects so far. They said leaks from the Fukushima plant amount to a tenth of the radiation emitted in the Chernobyl disaster, while acknowledging they eventually could exceed Chernobyl's emissions if the crisis continues.

"This inconfirms that this is an extremely major disaster. We are very sorry to the public, people living near the nuclear complex and the international community for causing such a serious accident," said Chief Cabinet Secretary Yukio Edano.

| PAGES A2

P-Noy orders Pinoys' mandatory repatriation; experts say Fukushima no Chernobyl / A8

Danding upheld on SMC

'Intel report could be the handiwork of rice cartel'

By Kristine L. Alave, Norman Bordadora and Christine Avendaño

"I think somebody wants to gain money from this (report)," Agriculture Secretary Proceso Alcala said, referring to the report of an impending rice crisis supposedly prepared by the National Intelligence Coordinating Agency (NIA).

Such a report would fuel market speculation and give big rice importers and retailers an excuse to ask for more imports and to raise prices, he said.

Asked if he was referring to the rice cartel made up of big importers, Alcala replied, "yes."

The supposed intelligence report warned of a rice shortage and price increases amid the volatile global cereal market and uncertain weather.

At a briefing in Malacañang, Alcala said the report could be the handiwork of the

ENDANGERED SPECIES NAMED PINOY Great Binay, the seven-year-old endangered Philippine Eagle named after Vice President Jejomar Binay, is now in the horse preservation of the Philippine Eagle Foundation in Davao City. The foundation's breeding program seeks to increase the number of Philippine Eagles, a highly endangered species. At least 400 pairs remain in the wild.

SC: Disputed shares of giant firm belong to Cojuangco

By Vincent Cabreza
Inquirer Northern Luzon

BAGUIO CITY—Businessman Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco Jr., an uncle of President Aquino and crony of the late dictator Ferdinand Marco, is the legitimate owner of a fifth of shares in San Miguel Corp., which government claims he acquired using the controversial coconut levy funds.

SMC is the country's biggest food and beverage conglomerate, which has diversified into power generation, telecommunications and other businesses.

The Supreme Court, sitting en banc, affirmed a 2007 decision issued by the Sandiganbayan and declared that the block of shares in SMC in the names of respondents Cojuangco et al ... is the exclusive property of Cojuangco et al, as registered owners."

The government had been contending 20 percent of SMC's capital stock or 16,276,879 shares that Cojuangco

| BUSINESS B1

'Morong 43' defector marries soldier in camp ceremony

By Dona Z. Pazzibugan

ONE OF THE FIVE who broke away from the group of health workers that came to be known collectively as "Morong 43" has married a soldier she met in military camp in Fort Bonifacio.

Jenilyn Pesares, 31, said she and her 23-year-old husband were married last March 30 at St. Martin's Chapel of Camp Capinpin, the headquarters of the Army's 2nd Infantry Division.

She said that her parents were present at the ceremony and that three military officers were among their

| PAGES A3, A7

Naia 1 rated among world's 10 worst airports

By DJ Yap

AN OFFLINE ATM SITE website has ranked the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (Naia) one of the world's 10 worst airports and the worst in Asia on NOVO, with travelers describing it as "a terrible old ruin" and "so utterly yard, only worse."

The website, "The Guide to Sleeping in Airports," ranked the Manila airport's patchily Naia Terminal 1, fifth worst in the

| SPORTS A14

Oil prices up again, 12th time this year

By Amy R. Remo and Paolo G. Montecillo

EVEN BEFORE the promised relief to nobody for public utility jeepneys and tricycles could be implemented, local oil companies have again raised the prices of gasoline and diesel by P1.50 to P1.75 a liter and kerosene by P1.40 a liter.

Chevron (formerly Caltex), Philippine Shell Petroleum Corp., Petron Corp. and Total Philippines enforced the price increase starting yesterday saying it reflected the rise in the global prices of petroleum products.

According to a report from the Department of Energy

| BUSINESS B1-2

Chevron prices stay steady in Baguio / A15

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STOCK MARKET QUARTERLY / B2-1

NEWS

- **P-Noy** names Payumo BCDA chief
- **Merol** prosecutors include 4 GMA allies
- **McDo** heeds CBCP, pulls out ad
- **World's** first ban on face veil starts in France

WEATHER FORECAST

Second FRONTPAGE

2 P.M.		
Luzon	20	24
Visayas	18	2
Mindanao	29	4

QUARTERS

Luzon	5	4	9
Visayas	0	5	8
Mindanao	7	1	7

SIX DIGIT (Lotto 6/42)

1 2 0 5 6 2

EZ2 LUZ-VIS-MIN

2 11 27 29 39 41

P42,504,240.80

SUPERLOTTO 6/49

4 10 14 35 38 47

P16,338,218.40

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Ex-GMA allies join trial vs Merci

By Gil Cabacungan and Cynthia D. Balana

FOUR REPRESENTATIVES with ties to the previous administration complete the 11-member House prosecution team in the impeachment trial of Ombudsman Merceditas Gutierrez.

Speaker Feliciano Belmonte Jr. announced the members of the prosecution team after a dinner on Monday night with House leaders, adding that they were eager to enter their appearance on May 9 when the senate convenes as an impeachment court.

Those named to the team with links to the previous administration are Negros Occidental Rep. Reynaldo Umali (Member-Dinorah), Ifugao Bernagas (Cariño), Batanes Quintin Dimfelrod), and Maguindanao Esmaguindo Mastura (Ind.). The other members are Iloilo Rep. Oscar Garin I, Joseph Emilio Abaya (Cavite), Adiong Bag-ao (Bidlisan) and Nico Salvameera (Davao Oriental).

Designated head of the team was Iloilo Rep. Niel Tupas, chairman of the committee on justice. Vice chairs are Bocos Nolet Bag, Rodolfo Farifias and Quezon Rep. Lorenzo Tanada III.

Tupas's term was not any problem with the inclusion of members allied with former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

Three of them voted "yes" to impeaching Gutierrez while Barzaga abstained.

Gutierrez was impeached for "betrayal of public trust" due to her inaction on several complaints charges filed against Arroyo and her family, such as the fertilizer fund scam and the NBN-ZTE broadband network deal.

"We talked to them and they committed to us," said Tupas.

Barzaga used to be an outspoken member of Kampi, a political party founded by Arroyo and which has since joined the National Unity Party formed by former Speaker allies after the 2010 elections.

Campanilla was formerly with the Liberal Party's proterrejos faction. Iloilo Antonio Ledesma and Lubas (PAD). He was the one who suggested in 2005 that Arroyo file for legal separation from her husband, Jose Miguel Arroyo, in the midst of the Jose Pidal bank account controversy. He was also chair of the House labor committee during Arroyo's tenure.

Umali served as chairman of Garcia's deputy commissioner during the Arroyo administration, while Quintin was president of Pag-Ibig Fund. Both are now members of the Liberal Party.

Media team, too

Belmonte also announced the appointment of a media relations team composed of Benik Cendaña (City Rep. Irene Antonio Pantoja, public information officer Raymundo Rigonan of the Criminal Public Against Corruption and Homeless Agliguy (ethnic Ilobo), retired Gen. Edgardo Aglipay served as police chief under Arroyo).

Aside from the fertilizer fund scam and the NBN-ZTE deal, the Articles of Impeachment include the euro generals' issue; Mega Pacific automotive contract (eventually the imprisonment of Navy Ensign Philip Pestaño, and the Office of the Ombudsman's dismal conviction rate.

Malico from Senate

Tupas told the Inquirer in an interview that the composition of the panel was agreed upon in the meeting with Speaker Belmonte at the Crowne Plaza hotel in Ortigas on Monday.

He said the House had already received a notice from the Senate's to appear on May 9 when the senators take their oath as senator-judges, along with the Supreme Court Chief Justice.

The panel will make an entry of appearance before the impeachment court. It submitted the names of the six articles of impeachment.

Tupas said he does expects the court to give Gutierrez 10 days to answer the charges, and the House panel five days to reply if necessary.

Tupas said two to three main prosecutors would be assigned to handle each article and would be assisted by private lawyers of their choice, some of whom would be retiring judges (ex-Sen).

Tupas and Farifias will be the main prosecutors in the fertilizer fund cases while Cabochanes will play a supporting role since his party-list group was the principal complainant in this article.

Tupas said he will be assisted by his law firm, the Bello, Gonzales, Elma Hand, Asuncion and Laeche Law Offices. Farifias by his former classmates in the Ateneo Law School who are practicing trial lawyers and Cabochanes by the National Union of People's Lawyers (NUPL) which he once headed.

The NUPL, a group of pro-bono lawyers, had provided legal assistance to the fertilizer fund scam case in 2004 and was the legal adviser of the accuse group Bayan.

Cabochanes and Salado would be the main prosecutors in the euro generals scandal, with NUPL lawyers also serving as support counsel.

"There are a lot of volunteers that would like to help out. What we've agreed is every article must have a legal team back up and those are lawyers that panel members are comfortable with," he added.

Commits support

Asked why Barzaga, a known bosses ally was included, Tupas said the panel had talked to him and he committed his support to the group.

"We'll be careful and we will put safeguards," he said. "For me, what is more important is they (the former Arroyo allies) believe in our cause which is to remove the Ombudsman because she is an obstacle in the fight against corruption."

In justifying the composition of the panel, Tupas said that of the 283 House members, only 75 are lawyers, some of whom are with the minority bloc and 203 not run for the impeachment of Gutierrez.

Man's death linked to Banco Filipino

By Penelope Endoso

HE SAID he couldn't take it anymore.

Casimiro "Mike" Mangubat, 49, reportedly took his own life yesterday, apparently in desperate remorse over the closure of Banco Filipino Savings and Mortgage Bank where he was promoted to have some money deposited.

Mangubat was found lying in a pool of blood with the speed-shot from a .9mm pistol and what appeared to be a suicide note.

"My life was ruined by this conflict between the BSP (Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas) and BF (Banco Filipino). I'm tired. I can't eat. I can't sleep. Goodbye and forgive me," read the note, written in Pilipino.

Case investigator Sgt. Bobby Iriso said police got a call at about 10:30 a.m. yesterday from a househelp of Alfredo Sakermeda, a doctor for whom Mangubat worked as a driver.

According to investigators, members of the household heard a gunshot. They then found Mangubat's body in an abandoned house beside the Sakermeda home in Pulanza Mitago, San Pedro, Laguna.

Mangubat's wife, Edith, could not give a statement because of "intense grief."

According to a maid, who asked not to be named, several days before his death, Mangubat reportedly tried to call Banco Filipino but could not talk to anyone.

Gov't eyes plunder raps vs Ampatuans

By Nikko Dizon

THE GOVERNMENT may file plunder charges against Zaldy Ampatuan, former governor of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM), after government auditors reported that P1 billion in ARMM funds were misappropriated.

Justice Secretary Leila de Lima met with former Secretary Jesse Robredo and Solicitor General Jose Anselmo Cadiz yesterday to discuss a course of action following the release of the Commission on Audit (COA) report.

De Lima said in a press conference that plunder charges would be filed against the suspension, "specifically Zaldy Ampatuan."

The results of the audit show almost P1 billion unaccounted for and in relieving fictitious employees and fictitious supporting documents, De Lima said.

The COA was directed a special audit of the ARMM in the aftermath of the Nov. 23, 2009 Maguindanao massacre where Ampatuan family members, including the former ARMM governor, were named as primary suspects.

Zaldy Ampatuan and several other alleged members are now in jail.

The COA special study covered the period January 2008 to September 2009 and was conducted in December 2010.

The findings showed that the ARMM ignored laws and misused government funds. Among the questionable transactions was the allocation of funds for the upkeep of a Metro Manila office as an upscale neighborhood.

The COA report was submitted to the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) which supervises the ARMM.

In a separate interview, Robredo said it was the first time the COA had conducted a proper audit of ARMM funds.

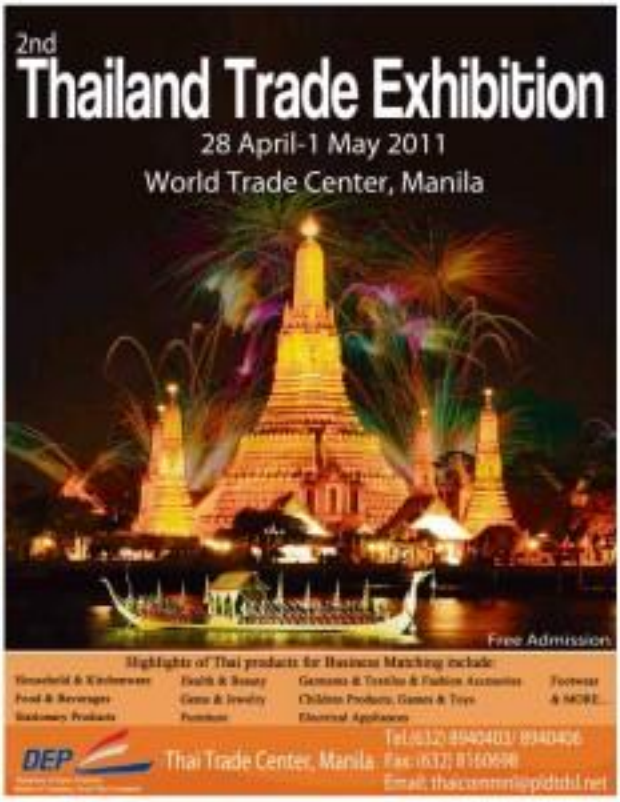
He said prosecutor auditors were given security by the police and military because "if not, the ARMM would not be audited."

Robredo expressed confidence that the government would have a strong case against Ampatuan as well as some 15 other officials of the Office of the Regional Governor (ORG).

"Clearly, there are excessive unjustifications, that is why I believe this is a strong case," Robredo told reporters after his meeting with De Lima.

He expressed hope a plunder case against Ampatuan and other ARMM officials would be filed to the Office of the Ombudsman.

The COA audited P3.3 billion worth of public funds of which P1 billion had been apparently malversed.



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Palace supports AFP inclusion of Marcos on 'Wall of Heroes'

By Christian G. Bonabon

MALACAÑANG president Benigno Aquino Jr. Armed Forces of the Philippines move to include the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos on a "Wall of Heroes" hailing 39 awardees of the prestigious Medal of Valor.

The Palace released the statement amid the controversy generated by Marcos' inclusion in the commemorative wall put up by the military in observance of Araw ng Kagitingan last April 9.

Deputy Presidential Spokesperson Abigail Valte said the Medal of Valor citation of Marcos was "in order," pointing out it was issued on Oct. 26, 1954, when he was still a member of the congressional during the administration of President Carlos Garcia.

Valte also cited the other Philippine presidents' contemporaries that Marcos received when he was a senator, before he became president and declared martial law late in 1972.

"Since historical note, the conferment is governing President Marcos' awards as executed by Executive Affairs of the AFP, the late Brother is Gilbert Gonzaga, in the main, his United States awards," she said in a statement.

Valte said the Philippine president is Marcos "continue to be on the official roster of the AFP," adding that "until otherwise revoked, the same is continue to exercise appropriate recognition."

"It should be noted that the AFP recognizes awardees for specific deeds that put them on the roster. The AFP's recognitions does not and cannot include subsequent actions by the recipient," she said.

Valte also stressed that the late president is the recognition of recipients of military awards.

"While there is public interest in the conferment of AFP awards, we should note these awards are generally viewed in suspension and nonpolitical," she said.

Meanwhile, Valte said Vice President Jejomar Binay was put in charge of studying and deciding on the proposal to bury Marcos' remains in the Libingan ng mga Bayani (Heroes Cemetery).

The late strongman had planned receiving at least 27 medals—including the Medal of Valor—for his guerrilla efforts during World War II. He said he had buttered Mabuhilan, a group of 9,200 anti-Japanese guerrillas who waged raids against the occupation forces.

In 1947, Marcos was appointed to the Philippine-American Commission to lobby the US for better benefits for war veterans. Two years later, he ran for Congress in Ilocos Norte and won.

Marcos was elected senator the following year. In 1959, he won the presidency. He was re-elected in 1969 then declared martial law in 1972 before the expiration of his term.

In the 1980s, The New York Times published a series of articles delineating Marcos' wealth. The series was based on research by University of South Wales professor Alfred McCoy.

The Washington Post also ran articles on Marcos' allegedly hidden wealth—based on research done by John Broder.

The articles cited US Army records stating "At no time did the Army recognize that any unit designating itself as Mabuhilan existed or was a guerrilla force in the years of Japanese occupation 1942 to 1945."

El Ante documents found in Bunday showed Isidro references to Marcos but no mention of any heroic deeds or medals for him.

With Inquirer Research

MANILA WATER SERVICE UPGRADE IN MAKATI AND PASIG

Manila Water will undertake the upgrade of distribution lines along Estes Northbound near Kalayaan and P. Burgos in Makati and Sandoval Avenue between Centennial 1 and Bakangas in Pasig which will cause temporary water supply interruption in the following areas:

Schedule: 10:00 PM, Thursday, April 14, 2011 up to 6:00 AM, Friday, April 15, 2011.

Affected Areas:

Makati: Makati CBD, Bel-Air, Urdaneta, portion of Barangay Poblacion, Pinagkaisahan, Guadalupe Viejo, Palm Village and Rockwell

Schedule: 11:00 PM, Thursday, April 14, 2011 up to 4:00 AM, Friday, April 15, 2011.

Affected Areas:

Pasig: Pinagbuhatan, Sandoval Ave., Kenneth Ave., Centennial 2 and Malaya.

Manila Water Company is advising all residents of the said areas to store enough water to supply their needs during the interruption period.

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For updates, please call our Customer Care Hotline 1627.

Manila Water

Nangangalaga sa Kinabukasan

Correction

IN THE APR. 11 ISSUE, under on Page A8 "Flagship merger from utility colleges" (undersold) omitted the first name of Deputy Presidential Spokesperson Abigail Valte.

Fired Ombudsman lawyers take Palace to Supreme Court

By Vincent Cabreza
Inquirer Northern Luzon

BAGUIO CITY—Two Ombudsman prosecutors who were recently dismissed by President Aquino have gone to the Supreme Court asking the high tribunal to intervene and stop Malacañang from firing them.

Deputy Ombudsmen Emilio Gonzalez III, whom the Palace has blamed for the August 2010 bloody hostage crisis, and Special Prosecutor Wendell Sobe, who is accused of causing a commotion that forced cancellation of the Carlos Garcia scoreboard, filed their petition in Baguio where the high court is holding its summer session.

They asked the high court to stop Mr. Aquino and his legal team from enforcing their dismissals by issuing temporary restraining orders or writs of injunction.

Gonzalez signed the both the Court's motion and Republic Act (RA) 6770, or the Ombudsman Act of 1989, against the office of the Ombudsman, the rule authority to discipline its staff.

He said that it was important that the issue is resolved immediately as Malacañang has also started investigating Deputy Ombudsmen Orlando Casimiro and Mark Johnston, who has resigned.

He urged the court to acknowledge the autonomy of the Ombudsman from Malacañang.

In his petition, Gonzalez said he was the victim of a government hoaxing for suspects for the Aug. 23, 2010, hostage crisis which placed the country and the new Aquino administration in an embarrassing light and caused worldwide relief during and after.

A dismissed policeman, Rolando Mendoza, seized a tourist bus full of Hong Kong tourists at a despot to bid to be reinstated after being his job over corruption allegations.

A bungled rescue effort by police left eight tourists dead, as well as the hostage-taker.

According to Gonzalez, "public perception of the Ombudsman as the 'hostage-taker' and 'the hand for hands to chop...scapegoats—becomes the [the government's] 'scapegoat.'"

During the hostage-taking, Mendoza claimed that Gonzalez was the cause of the delay in resolving his demands for the reinstatement of his dismissal. He also accused Gonzalez of trying to extort P150,000 from him. With a report from Norman Bordadora

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ON
ANTI - OVERLOADING

The enforcement of the restriction on truck gross vehicle weight (GVW) limits starting May 1, 2011 as earlier announced by the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) is indefinitely deferred until further notice. The DPWH is working out arrangements with the Philippine Ports Authority (PPA), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) and other stakeholders in the synchronization of the weighing operations and the finalization of revised GVW limits for each truck/trailer type.

However, the restriction on the allowable vehicle axle load of 13,500 kilograms shall be continuously enforced.

For further information, please call (02) 526 - 3407 or visit www.dpwh.gov.ph

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

P-Noy OKs P4.2B for soldiers' houses

PRESIDENT AQUINO has ordered the allocation of P4.2 billion to build 20,000 houses for soldiers and police officers, Malacañang said Tuesday.

Executive Secretary Paquito Ochoa said Mr. Aquino signed Administrative Order No. 9 on Monday, creating the AFP/PNP Housing Project that would provide permanent housing for soldiers and policemen who qualify based on criteria.

"It is the policy of this administration to improve the welfare of government employees, including military and police personnel," said Ochoa in a statement.

"Providing decent and affordable shelter for soldiers and policemen is one way of carrying out such a policy, as we are aware that despite our service to the [country], a large number of soldiers and police personnel still do not have the housing they need," he said.

The AO mandates the National Housing Authority to take the lead in implementing the housing program.

Executive Order No. 90, enacted in December 1986, gives the NHA responsibility for the government's subsidized housing plan under the National Shelter Program.

President Aquino first announced the government's housing program for soldiers and police officers in January.

Norman Bordadora

Taal residents must move out permanently–Phivolcs

BATANGAS CITY— The chief of the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs) has urged the local government here to start drawing up a long-term relocation plan for people living on Taal Volcano as he warned that the current volcanic island could be "obliterated" by one of its craters.

"Sometimes nature will provide. The people have to learn to adapt so why not move now in the long term to avoid [subsequent] people's lives," Phivolcs Director Renato Solidum told a meeting of the Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council of Batangas on Monday.

Solidum said Taal's present activity has been elevated to be similar to previous eruptions in 1965-1976 and 1976-1977 wherein the entire crater island was "totally obliterated."

Solidum told Batangas officials it must be clearer to the people living there how dangerous it is to live on the island because of what happened in the past.

He said they both faced and the relocation of their children are disrupted because they have to evacuate every time the volcano becomes restive and then return to their homes again after the threat is lifted.

According to Solidum, Taal Volcano can continue to be a restless area but there is a chance that a colossal eruption could happen in the distant future.

However, many things would have to be considered before the between 100 000 and 5,000 residents on the volcano island.

"It won't be that easy. Even on short notice, the people refuse to evacuate," she said.

Phivolcs asked alert level 2 since Taal after 11 volcanic earthquakes were recorded on Tuesday morning, according to Lorena Bañal, a classic account statement at the Taal Observatory.

A Phivolcs bulletin said magma has been moving toward the surface as shown by a remarkable increase in carbon dioxide being released in the mountain lake.

If the magma continues moving to, until the surface, the volcano could erupt, said Solidum.

On the other hand, the volcano might not decide to erupt a bit before continuing its activity again in the coming years, he said.

Sherrich Bello Asido-Ay, Inquirer Southern Luzon

THE DAILY GOSPEL

APRIL 13 | Wednesday
Psalter-Week 1
Martin I, a Title Week of Lent
Jer. 1: 1a, 11b, 14, 15, 16
Glory and praise be to Jesus!

1st Reading: Jer 1: 14-20; Ps 71: 1-2, 3-4a, 5-6b, 15, 17

King Nebuchadnezzar questioned them, "Is it true, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, that you do not serve my gods or worship the golden statue I have set up?" ... "If you refuse, you know the consequence. You will immediately be thrown into a burning furnace. And then what god can deliver you out of my hands?" ... Nebuchadnezzar's face reddened with fury as he looked at Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. He ordered the furnace heated seven times hotter than usual and commanded some of his strongest subjects to bind Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego and throw them into the burning furnace. Then King Nebuchadnezzar exploded with joy in great amazement and asked his counselors, "Did we not throw three men bound into the fire?" They answered, "Certainly." The king said, "But I can see four men walking about freely through the fire without suffering any harm, and the fourth looks like a son of the gods." Nebuchadnezzar continued, "Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego who sent his angel to free his servants who, trusting in him, disobeyed the king's order and endured even death rather than serve or worship any other god but their God."

Gospel: Jn 8: 21-42

Jesus went on to say to the Jews who believed in him: "You will be my true disciples if you keep my word. Then you will know the truth and the truth will make you free." They answered him, "We are the descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves of anyone. What do you mean by saying 'You will be free'?" Jesus answered them, "Truly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave. But the slave doesn't stay in the house forever; the son stays forever. ...

... They answered him, "Our father is Abraham." Then Jesus said, "If you were Abraham's children, you would do as Abraham did. But now you are trying to kill me, a man who tells you the truth—the truth that I have learned from God. ..."

The Jews said to him, "We say you illegitimate children are born of prostitution." Jesus replied, "If God were your Father you would love me, for I came forth from God, and I am here. And I didn't come on my own initiative, but was instructed who to send me. Why don't you understand what I say? It is because you refuse to hear my message. You are of your father the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and has never been truthful, for there is no truth in him. When he tells a lie, he is speaking his own language, for he is a liar and the father of lies. But because I tell the truth, you don't believe me. Can any of you prove that I am guilty of sin? If I am telling the truth, why don't you believe me? Anyone who belongs to God hears what God says. The reason you don't hear is that you don't belong to God."

Reflection:

"I always see myself as sinful and unfaithful," shared a Chinese Catholic. Such a startling remark, the usual message we get in our churches is on our preachers! We are always told we still remain sinners, the only exception is Mother who is the Good Thief of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is true that Paul preached that "all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God," but we need to forget that his also said that "all are justified and made righteous with God by the sacrifice of Jesus' life." There is a possibility of a life free from sin, and this possibility is real because the Son sent us to liberate us from the power of sin.

Thomas Aquinas, Theologian, Priest, Doctor of the Church, Memory, Optional, Lit. Color: White. Alternative Color: Red. Or: Ps 116: 10ab, 15-16bc, 17-18. Ps: +CCC #2340-#2345 (Freedom and responsibility) +CCC #1730-#1733 (The passions) +CCC #1762-#1770 (Human acts) +CCC #1776-#1794 (Moral conscience) +CCC #1795-#1802 (Virtue) +CCC #1803-#1845 (The virtues) +CCC #1846-#1876 (Sin) +CCC #1877-#1948 (Sin and forgiveness) +CCC #1949-#1986 (Grace) +CCC #1987-#2029 (Justification) +CCC #2030-#2046 (Merit) +CCC #2047-#2051 (Holiness) +CCC #2052-#2063 (Prayer) +CCC #2064-#2109 (Prayer in the life of the believer) +CCC #2110-#2133 (Prayer in the life of the believer) +CCC #2134-#2158 (Prayer in the life of the believer) +CCC #2159-#2167 (Prayer in the life of the believer) +CCC #2168-#2188 (Prayer in the life of the believer) +CCC #2189-#2195 (Prayer in the life of the believer) +CCC #2196-#2201 (Prayer in the life of the believer) +CCC #2202-#2206 (Prayer in the life of the believer) +CCC #2207-#2213 (Prayer in the life of the believer) +CCC #2214-#2217 (Prayer in the life of the believer) +CCC #2218-#2219 (Prayer in the life of the believer) +CCC #2220-#2221 (Prayer in the life of the believer) +CCC #2222-#2223 (Prayer in the life of the believer) +CCC #2224-#2225 (Prayer in the life of the believer) +CCC

Pinoys near stricken nuke plant to be repatriated

By DJ Yap

PRESIDENT Aquino yesterday ordered the "mandatory" repatriation of Filipinos living within 50 kilometers of the Fukushima nuclear plant after Japan upgraded its nuclear emergency to the maximum level on par with the Chernobyl catastrophe. (story on Page A3)

The Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) also called for the voluntary return of Filipinos residing within 100 km of the nuclear plant.

Foreign Secretary Albert del Rosario told reporters he requested the measure to total around 2,000, not including their children.

"With this information, and upon the instruction of the President, we are initiating action to repatriate on a mandatory basis Filipinos who are within 50 km of the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power," Del Rosario said.

Although the phrase used was mandatory repatriation, Del Rosario conceded "there is no way we can force anyone to go if they decide to stay."

First flight

Del Rosario said that the Philippine Embassy in Tokyo would oversee the repatriation. He said the Philippines will pay for the repatriation.

The first chartered flight bringing the Filipinos home is expected to take off on Sunday from Nagoya Airport in North west Japan, Del Rosario said.

"I think what would happen is we'll probably relocate them as quickly as we can from those areas where the risk is highest," he said, adding the embassy has deployed staff for the effort.

Upon their arrival in the Philippines, the repatriatees will be promptly subjected to radiation screening, he said.

The secretary acknowledged that there might be "challenges" involving Filipinos married to Japanese or with children of mixed parentage. In such cases, he said the embassy could accommodate the Japanese spouse as his or her own expense.

Funds depleted

Del Rosario likened the situation in Japan to Libya, where many Filipinos remained despite the escalating violence.

He said the Libya conflict had depleted the DFA's funds, but donor were replenished by the Office of the President. One round-trip charter flight to Japan will cost the Philippines P200,000, he said.

The DFA also released the following embassy hotline numbers in case of emergency: (03)5401-1373, (03)5562-1074, (03)5551-52-1757, (03)5562-1590. The embassy can also be reached by e-mail through: emergency@philembassy.net

Japan nuke alert up to highest level, like Chernobyl

From page A1

But Ichimi told reporters there was no "direct health damage" so far from the crisis. "The accident itself is really serious, but we have set our priorities so as not to cause health damage."

Concern in China

China said on Tuesday it was still concerned about Japan's nuclear calamity.

"We hope that the measures taken by Japan will ease the current situation," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hong Lei said a regular news conference. "We hope that the Japanese side will provide swift, comprehensive and accurate information," Hong said, according to Kyodo News.

China has so far been sympathetic rather than angry, though it and South Korea have criticized the plant operator's decision to pump radioactive water into the sea, a process it has now stopped.

Japanese officials on Monday added the communities to a list of places people should leave or avoid long-term radiation exposure. A 20-kilometer radius already has been cleared around the plant.

Continued aftershocks following a 9.0-magnitude megaquake on March 11 have impeded work in restoring the Fukushima plant...the latest a 6.3-magnitude one on Tuesday that killed three people and prompted plant operator Tokyo Electric Power Co. (Tepco) to temporarily pull back workers.

Widespread radiation leaks

Officials from Japan's Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency (Nisa) said that the cumulative amount of radioactive materials released into the atmosphere since the incident had reached levels that apply to a Level 7 incident. Other factors included damage in the plant's buildings and accumulated radiation levels at its workers.

"We have upgraded the severity level to 7 as the impact of radioactive leaks has been widespread from the air, vegetables, tap water to the ocean," Nisa official Minoru Ohgoda said.

The revision was based on cross-checking and assessments of data on leaks of radioactive iodine-131 and cesium-137, Nisa spokesperson Hidehiko Nishiyama said.

"We have refrained from making announcements until we have reliable data," Nishiyama said. "The announcement is being made now because it is.

Experts say Fukushima is no Chernobyl

TOKYO—For all their criticism of how Tokyo Electric Power Co. and Japan's government are handling the crisis at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant, experts agree with them on one point: Fukushima is not another Chernobyl.

"Fukushima has its own unique risks, but comparing it to Chernobyl is going too far. Fukushima is unlikely to have the kind of impact on the health of people in neighboring countries, the way Chernobyl did," said nuclear specialist Kenji Sumiya at Osaka University.

How are the main points of how the two accidents differ?

Unit 4 at Chernobyl was a water-cooled and graphite-moderated reactor...a combination that can and did yield a runaway chain reaction. A series of grave errors and misjudgment by operators resulted in an explosion and fire that catapulted radioactivity into the upper atmosphere.

The resulting release of radioactivity has been compared to 10 times that released by the 1945 US nuclear bomb attack on the Japanese city of Hiroshima.

The boiling water reactors at Fukushima do not have a containable graphite core. The nuclear fuel in fourmore No. 1, No. 2 and No. 3 was allowed to melt at least partially, but operators have since succeeded in cooling both the reactors and the spent fuel pools to avert a chain reaction in bag pressing now.

As long as cooling operations continue and Japan can prepare tanks fast enough to store the contaminated overflow, the Japanese authorities appear to figure out how to bring the reactors to a cold shutdown.

How do the containment structures differ?

Chernobyl had no containment structure and nothing stopped the trajectory of radioactive materials into the air.

Fukushima's reactors are built on granite foundations and are surrounded by steel and concrete structures. The reactor vessels and containment structures, as well as some of the pipes leading from the reactors, are likely to have been damaged by the March 11 tsunami and recurring earthquakes. But with radiation levels now down to a different order of magnitude from the peak, experts say that the structures are still holding.

Chernobyl contaminated an area as far as 500 km from the plant, and an area spanning 30 km around the plant is still an evacuation zone and uninhabited.

Have there been fallout fatalities or deaths in Japan?

As Fukushima workers have been in no deaths as far due to radiation. Eight people have been injured. More deadly have been the 9.0-magnitude quake that hit on March 11 and the almost 10-meter tsunami that followed. Two of the 6,000 deaths from the earthquake and tsunami were workers tried to bring the plant under control. Two have died and three have been critically injured.

At Chernobyl, the initial explosion resulted in the death of two workers. Twenty-eight of the 134 people who were exposed to high doses of radiation died in the first three months after the explosion from acute radiation sickness and care died of cardiac arrest.

How of information sources can we up

Hamilton, ex- Georgia-based, incoherent and sometimes contradictory, too. But it is difficult to accuse Japanese officials or Tepco of intentionally covering up information, with round-the-clock updates on the crisis being released at 4 a.m.

Chernobyl was initially covered up by the secretive Soviet state, which remained silent for two days. Our authorities, obliged by huge radiation releases throughout Europe, gradually disclosed details of the accident, showing unprecedented levels of openness.

Should Fukushima prompt a greater risk if it all goes wrong?

It's not over yet. One month since the March 11 earthquake and tsunami, workers still have to inject water into the reactors, creating more contaminated water that is hampering the restoration of power to pumps to cool the reactors and bring them to a cold shutdown.

The situation led a frustrated and demoralized Tepco spokesperson to say that the total fallout could exceed that of Chernobyl. Fukushima involves loss of control at four reactors and potentially more radioactive material, that could be transported by wind, soil or born into the environment.

Officials have said that if power cannot be restored to the cooling pumps, there are other measures, such as air cooling, and that in a worst case scenario, they could try reactors with containment structures whose containment structures are sound. — Reuters

However, Tepco is still estimating the total amount of radioactive materials that could be released. company spokesperson Junichi Matsumoto said. He acknowledged that, if leaks continue, the amount of radioactivity released might eventually exceed the amount emitted by Chernobyl.

The new company under fire for its handling of the accident and its disaster preparedness before the March 11 earthquake and tsunami, issued yet another apology on Tuesday.

"We apologize once this. We deeply apologize for causing tremendous trouble to those who live near the nuclear complex and people in the prefecture," Tepco spokesperson Junichi Uemoto said.

Chernobyl disaster

In Chernobyl, in the Ukraine, a reactor exploded on April 26, 1986, spewing a cloud of radioactive over much of the Northern Hemisphere. A zone about 30 km around the plant was declared uninhabitable, although some plant workers still live there for short periods and a few hundred other people have returned despite government recommendations to stay away.

In 2005, the Chernobyl Forum—a group comprising the IAEA and several other UN groups—said fewer than 50 deaths could be confirmed as being connected to Chernobyl. It also said the number of radiation-related deaths among the 600,000 people who helped deal with the aftermath of the accident would ultimately be around 4,000.

The UN health agency, however, has said about 9,000 people have died as a result of exposure to the Chernobyl accident. The UN health agency, however, has said about 9,000 people have died as a result of exposure to the Chernobyl accident, although there are different explanations.

"In that sense, this situation is totally different from Chernobyl," he said.

He said the amount of radiation leaking from the Daiichi plant was around 10 percent of the Chernobyl accident.

explosions of reactor rooms at the Daiichi plant, although there were hydrogen explosions.

"In that sense, this situation is totally different from Chernobyl," he said.

He said the amount of radiation leaking from the Daiichi plant was around 10 percent of the Chernobyl accident.

Danding upheld on SMC; SC rules Cojuangco owns disputed shares

From page A1

allegedly acquired through the now late when he headed the United Coconut Planters Bank (UCPB). (SMC closed yesterday at P92 a share in the Philippine Stock Exchange's main Makati Binondo Avenue Miguel Brewery Inc. at P93 a.)

The government maintains that the coco levy is public in nature, which means that the state owns 20 percent of the SMC stocks in the name of Cojuangco et al.

The government's position is the end of a block of 33 million shares through holding firms owned by the oil mills of the Cojuangco Industry Investment Fund, according to the government.

7 for Cojuangco, 4 against

Seven justices voted in favor of Cojuangco—Chief Justice Renato C. Corona, and Associate Justices Lucas Bersamin, Presbitero Velasco Jr., Martines del Castillo, Roberto Abad, Jose Portugal Perez and Martin Villarama Jr.

Four dissented. Associate Justices Arturo Brion and Cesario Carpio Morales, who wrote dissenting opinions; and Chief Ruth Gozalez and Mario Lucas Bautista.

The other four justices took no part in the deliberations: Associate Justice Antonio Carpio identified himself as one of the petitioners who sought to declare the coco levy funds as public funds; Associate Eduardo Nachura, who noted that he signed the government pleadings as solicitor general; Senate Leonardo de Castro and Diosdado Peralta.

The decision begins with the following sentence: "You were two decades, the issue of whether the sequestered taxable blocks of shares representing 20 percent of the outstanding capital stock of SMC at the time of acquisition belonged to duly registered owners or to the coconut farmers has remained unresolved.

"Through this decision, the court aims to finally resolve the issue and terminate the uncertainty that has plagued [these shares]."

The high court also declared as lawful previous decisions that lifted eight writs of sequestration imposed by the Presidential Commission on Good Government (PCGG) against Cojuangco's assets.

In their ruling, the justices observed that the government failed to offer clear evidence to prove that Cojuangco amassed his wealth illegally.

For example, the court said the testimonies of the state witnesses against Cojuangco was ruled because in some instances, the PCGG had failed to determine prima facie basis for sequestration.

The decision dwelt on "the concept and genesis of ill-gotten wealth" in the Philippine setting" in addressing Cojuangco's situation.

Then President Corazon Aquino's first official act on Feb. 26, 1986, was to recover all ill-gotten wealth amassed by Marcos, his immediate family, relatives and close associates both here and abroad through the creation of the PCGG.

The court said that by definition, "ill-gotten wealth would not include all properties of President Marcos...but only part that originated from the 'nasa resources of government.'"

The court also ruled that to be "ill-gotten, the assets must have originated from government itself... (or) taken by Marcos and his associates by illegal means."

The tribunal said "identifying other persons who might be the close associates of President Marcos presented an inherent difficulty because it was not fair and just to include within the term those associates/ventures who had had any association with President Marcos, but in another family and relatives."

In any case, the court said "the Republic did not discharge its burden as the plaintiff to establish by preponderance of evidence that the acquisition/ SMC shares were illegally acquired with monies [coconut] funds."

The government tried to argue that Cojuangco obtained loans from UCPB to buy the SMC shares through a series of instruments issued by Marcos. It said the assisted rules restricting bank officials from taking advantage of their own deposits and assets.

WHAT WENT BEFORE

PRESIDENT Ferdinand Marcos imposed a levy on coconut farmers between 1971 and 1982 supposedly to develop the coconut industry.

In 1986, the people power engineered by the Presidential Commission on Good Government (PCGG), the agency tasked with recovering the coconut industry and ethical funds included businessman Eduardo Cojuangco, it was the basis for issuing a writ "for the benefit of the farmers."

The bank was First United Bank, later renamed United Coconut Planters Bank (UCPB). Cojuangco became its president and chief executive officer.

With the PCA and UCPB in his control, Cojuangco used his associates even still in his firms and cobb placed under the Coconut Industry Investment Fund (CIIF), a group of 14 holding companies

Supreme Court declared the coconut levy funds as "private funds," but left the Sandiganbayan to determine the owner of the assets acquired with the funds.

In May 2004, the Sandiganbayan awarded the 27 percent block of SMC shares to the government, which holds it in trust for the country's coconut farmers.

Government shares diluted

The 27-percent stake was reduced in almost 24 percent after it was diluted with the investment of Japanese investor Kirin in SMC.

In November 2007, the Sandiganbayan ordered a compromise meeting to recover the 20 percent block of shares under the names of 44 Cojuangco-owned companies.

The antigraft court said the PCGG had failed to prove that coconut levy funds were used to purchase the block of shares.

Various lawmakers' groups asked the Supreme Court to intervene the decision. Cojuangco sought to drop the intervention of the groups, but the Supreme Court denied his petition and ruled in April 2008 that they have the right to take part in the case as taxpayers.

SC lets gov't sell SMC stake

In June 2009, the Office of the Solicitor General asked the Supreme Court to allow the government to sell its 24-percent stake in SMC to avoid losses as a result of the depreciation of the shares of stocks.

In October 2009, the PCGG approved the conversion of the government's 24-percent stake in SMC, amounting to 758 million shares, into new voting preferred shares.

The PCGG said the decision was a result of a careful study and was approved by the Supreme Court and the stakeholders of the coco levy fund.

It added that with the conversion, the shares would not fall prey to "speculation" and its price would be pegged at P70 each.

Former PCGG chair Camilo Sabio and several others filed a motion for reconsideration in the Supreme Court, questioning the conversion which they claimed was "disadvantageous" to the government.

In February 2010, the Supreme Court upheld its ruling, which allowed the conversion.

Inquirer Research

But the court said government failed to establish any breach of Cojuangco's "fiduciary duties" as a bank official.

"The thrust of the Republic that the funds were banked on a loan might even preclude any consequent trust implications," the court said, because the debtor acquires proprietary control over the funds once it is transferred.

"A debtor can appropriate the thing it borrows, assume the responsibility or duty or its refusal to return the very thing that was loaned or to repair how the proceeds were used," it said.

Cojuangco's only liability, it said, was to pay the loan and its interest as stipulated by law.

Army feels fuel price pinch, too

THE SKYROCKETING price of fuel has prompted the Philippine Army to convert 18 of its light-armored "Scorpion" tanks from gasoline to diesel engines.

The upgrade will run about P300 million, an Army spokesperson said.

"They will be repowered; they will be diesel-powered," said Col. Antonio Parlade Jr. "They will have new engines—from gasoline to diesel."

Asked if the continuing rise in fuel prices was a big consideration in the conversion, Parlade said, "Bulgay ko (I think so)." He added that the upgrade had long been planned but was just on hold.

The project was revived last week and a technical working group was formed after the Department of National Defense gave the go signal for its implementation.

Parlade said the original proposal called for the conversion of 32 Scorpion tanks for P200 million, while the new proposal would cover 33 tanks and six others that are nonoperational that would be given new engines, for the same amount.

"They are needed especially in central Mindanao. And they are aging so it is better if they are upgraded. Anyway we have an available budget," Parlade said.

He said the tanks were acquired in the 1960s as their engines had reached their maximum life span.

The Scorpion tanks were designed by and for the British Army as reconnaissance vehicles ahead of the main tank units.

Introduced in 1973, Scorpion tanks were used by the British Army until 1996. The Philippine Army utilizes the tanks for its weaponry in support of the infantry. (Inna Paredes)Agent

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Willie needs to be heard, lawyer asks MTRCB probers

By Marinel R. Cruz
and Christian V. Esguerra

A LAWYER for TV host Willie Revillame yesterday called on state censors to allow the entertainer-newsman to explain why he allowed a 9-year-old boy to perform like a "macho dancer" in his show, as a female commentator accused minors of sexual exploitation.

At the start of a hearing called by the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board (MTRCB), lawyer Leonard de Vera asked the panel to arrange a "full blown hearing" to enable Revillame to present his side in connection with allegations of exploitation of a minor in his popular but now grounded show.

"Willie needs to be heard," De Vera said after a closed-door hearing at the MTRCB office in Quezon City. "He has to be given the chance to explain exactly he did what he did on the show."

"At the risk sounds now, Willie is still not allowed to explain," De Vera said, responding to the boycott what he said happened at the hearing.

De Vera said the host appears in a previous interview he was told by the MTRCB it could not summon Revillame to explain since the board could only sanction a program, not its employees.

Davao City's example

After notching the senate's committee on youth, women and family relations said it would review existing laws to ensure that the rights of the child are protected.

"We have so many talent shows and contests where kids are made to dress and gyrate like sexy dancers drinking daiquiris and/or "lasing" said Sen. Pia Cayetano, committee chairperson.

"But in genuine sensitive cities like Davao, the mayor has long banned the sexualizing parties in their annual Hiniya ng Dabaw (pageant) search."

Cayetano said there was no reason why such an example—showing respect "for both women and children, not only in talent shows but also on TV advertisements and all forms of media"—could not be followed across the country.

Two laws

The senator said two existing laws would be scrutinized—the public act No. 9262, or the Act Defining Violence Against Women and their Children, and RA 7610, the Act Providing for Stronger and Special Protection Against Child Abuse, Exploitation and Discrimination.

RA 7610 states: "Any person who shall hire, employ, use, persuade, induce or coerce a child to perform in obscene exhibitions and indecent shows, whether live or in video, or model to obscene publications or pornographic materials or to sell or distribute the said materials shall suffer the penalty of prison mayor in its maximum period."

"If this child is used in a performance subject or other shows that is below twelve (12) years of age, the penalty shall be imposed in its maximum period," it says.

Shakai was there

Wowowin's executive Shakai Soledad, Revillame's cohost, and Ate Maricel Soriano, "Willing Willie" Business Unit head, as well as the 23-member WW Girls dance group, were present at yesterday's hearing.

Over 100 Revillame fans, all wearing white and green shirts, trooped to the MTRCB to support the beleaguered host.

At the MTRCB hearing, deadlines were set for the parties to submit affidavits and present arguments, said Julio Gonpoot, TV5's legal counsel.

"The affidavits with the very things must today," Gonpoot said. "They honored to both sides very carefully. They took time to actually study our arguments before making rulings."

Filmmaker Bibbi Segovia, to must handle Carmen Shamp and lawyer Noel del Prado composed the newly-revamped lowing and adjudication board.

Quick action

Justice Secretary Leila de Lima promised quick action on any case that may be filed against those who may have violated the rights of a minor.

"The Department of Justice is waiting for the appropriate complaint and we will act immediately," De Lima told reporters.

In a round-table discussion in Quezon City (QC) Communications Secretary Ricky Ermita said questions about whether it was true that the boy had undergone surgery for the show, or whether he was hypnotized.

Dolly Cruz also wanted to know whether the boy was told to perform like a macho dancer, whether he did it on his own, or whether his parents taught him to dance that way.

Ilen pressed at the round table were officials from the Department of Social Welfare and Development, the National Council for Children's Welfare, the Council for the Welfare of Children and psychologist Prissy Carandang.

No representatives of TV5 was present. But TV5 said it would examine the meeting was not an investigation.

DSWD Secretary Alicia Bonoan said the department, which had been leading after the boy's welfare since the incident, had planned, said the parents had come to realize that the kind of dance the boy performed was inappropriate.

CHR Chair Loretta Rosales said the discussions should lead to the "strengthening of guidelines to protect children."

With reports from Ishbel Tiron and Leila B. Salaverria

CHILD PSYCHOLOGIST Dr. Hussy Carandang talks on the controversy allegedly exploitation of the 5-year-old boy on "Willing Willie" television show during the consultation meeting of the Commission on Human Rights.

McDo pulls TV ad off airwaves; bishops happy

By Gaudencio Jacinto
and Jocelyn R. Uy

MCDONALD'S has decided to pull off the air its television commercial showing a little girl asking a long time ago to be her boyfriend—and the company's bishops are happy.

In a statement, McDonald's Philippines vice president for marketing and communications, Margot Nava, said the TV ad had stopped airing on all networks as of yesterday.

The local unit of the international fast food chain announced the decision a day after some members of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) voiced out their opposition to the commercial for supposedly disrupting heaven relationships.

In the 30-second commercial, the girl seen asking the boy if she can be his girlfriend. The boy says he isn't ready because girlfriends can be too demanding and tend to wear many things.

But he changes his mind when the girl tells him she will be willing to a packet of French fries from McDonald's, costing P25.

Positive values

"We recognize and respect the views of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines and have stopped airing the said commercial across all television stations," Nava said in an e-mailed note to the bishops.

Nava said the fast food chain has over the years strived to produce advertisements that highlight positive values, such as love for families like the popular "Sarap Lahat" ad—and celebrity figures like Ronald McDonald House Charities, which nurses what the brand stands for.

"McDonald's remains committed in promoting positive values and will continue serving the fun to be better at what we do—whether it is out food, our service, to even how we communicate to the public," she said.

The company said Bishop Deogracias Iñiguez of the CBCP Permanent Committee on Public Affairs expressed his "thanks and appreciation" for McDonald's to appear in the clergy's objections during a dialogue over Classroom Radio Veritas yesterday.

"We would like to inform the public that McDonald's decided to pull out the commercial because we respect the call made Bishop Iñiguez. We will explore this spot with an old commercial," Nava said on the radio. "By [today], a different McDonald's ad should be seen on TV."

'We are very happy'

Iñiguez welcomed the fast food firm's decision, so consider the Church request.

"We are very happy that McDonald's listened to our plea, that it agrees with the sentiment and the reflection that the Church has on the commercial spot," Iñiguez said.

Iñiguez earlier said the ad could send the wrong message to young viewers about the two children even not even at the right age for such a relationship, as it is being proposed by the commercial.

Fr. Melvin Castro of the CBCP Episcopal Commission on Family and Life said the commercial "cheapened human relationships."

"At a very early young age, these kids (more) trained to taught the value of loving their parents, their country environment and food, not about a relationship not yet appropriate for their age," he added.

Nava said: "We don't want our commercials to cause any misinterpretation ... The intention was only to convey to the public that our products are not expensive."

'Intel report could be the work of rice cartel'

From page A1

rice cartel whose business had been affected by the Department of Agriculture's supposedly distribution of importation quota.

The agriculture secretary said the report was not only alarmist but also baseless. "Why would they release this outdated report? Our farmers are good," he said.

Nica head disowns report

Alcala and deputy presidential spokesperson Abigail Valte said Nica head Tobusan Salazar had denied that there was such a Nica report.

The report, a copy of which was reportedly submitted to President Aquino, said the reliable rice situation could be a "flash point" and cause political instability.

A top security analyst, who helped prepare the Nica report, said authorities were closely watching signs of unrest. "The sources of unrest are not just limited more than to political conflict, but also issues of the domestic," he said.

Alarmist

Bayan Muna Rep. Teodoro Casiño described the Nica report as "alarmist and disappointing."

He said to release was "suspicious" considering that the National Food Authority (NFA) was in the midst of giving out import contracts for 600,000 metric tons of rice to private groups.

Casiño said the NFA had so far signed 11 contracts for 200,000 tons of rice with another 400,000 metric tons in the pipeline.

"The Nica report will most likely be used by unscrupulous government officials and private rice importers to jack up the price of imported rice," he said.

"How can this agency directly under the President be so careless? Well, maybe they're in bed being deliberately helpful to the rice cartels," he said.

Disastrous to farmers

Alleging more rice from abroad to enter the Philippine market will be disastrous to 9.9 million farmers as imported rice can drive down prices and discourage farmers from planting, Alcala said.

He said a drop in imports would put in peril the government's goal to be rice sufficient by 2013.

Production up

The first semester harvest could hit 7.6 million metric tons, a 13-percent increase from the palay (unhusked rice) production in the same period last year.

"This looks like one of the highest on record," the agriculture secretary said.

The Department of Agriculture pegged the total palay output for 2011 at 17.4 million metric tons. Apart from rice, corn and onion are also enjoying good harvests and palaces on the local market, Alcala said.

'No price increase'

He said the Department of Agriculture and the NFA had agreed to keep the price of rice stable. "There will be no price increase," he said.

"It's the law of supply and demand. We can buy a lot of rice in the market and that's why we don't expect rice prices to shoot up. We're in the best season so we don't see rice prices going up," he said at the briefing in Malacañang.

Alcala said the government division is rained subsidized fuel to farmers and fishermen with the Philippine Crop Insurance Corp. The subsidy was first given to jeepney and tricycle operators to help them cope with soaring fuel prices.

He said the fuel subsidy for farmers and fishermen was likely to be granted in two months' time.

The Department of Agriculture has estimated to Energy Secretary Jose Almendras a list of farm and fishing implements that consumes petroleum products, including small pump boats.

"We came up with a list (of those implements) for every town, every province and every region," he said.

Alcala said there to be covered by the fuel assistance were tractors, fishing vessels, machinery used to water rice fields, and even vehicles transporting vegetables to Metro Manila.

The government is expected to start releasing fuel discounts to jeepney and tricycle operators in May.

New imports unnecessary

Bayan Muna Rep. Teodoro Casiño

Naia 1 rated . . .

From page A1

award, behind two in France, including Charles De Gaulle in Paris, and the Los Angeles and Miramar airports.

The ranking was based on a release of air travelers who complained, among other things, of "lobby concerns, lack of comfort, while waiting, toilet stuff, trouble security, poor facilities, no (or low) services, terminal fees, taxi charges and general hassles of being in the airport."

Two-thirds of the travel and the arrival airports are rated unfavorably by the website Orbitz. Philippine Airlines, which uses Terminal 2 for its flights, was rated "poor" by 70 percent of the travelers.

Naia actually rose two places in the list. In 2010, it was ranked seventh. Two other Asian airports made it to the worst list—20 of both from India, in New Delhi and Bangalore at sixth and eighth, respectively.

Quoting other travel, the website Skytrax listed Naia as its 2010, according to the website, were also in Male (Singapore's Changi, Seoul (at three and Hong Kong, the same top three the previous year.

'Bombed-out ruin'

Most complaints about Naia concern mainly the old Terminal 1, which hosts all international flights except those of Philippine Airlines, which uses Terminal 2, and Cebu Pacific, Air Philippines and All Nippon Airways, which use Terminal 3.

A reviewer named Brody said of Naia: "It has to be experienced to be believed. Think of a bombed-out ruin and you'll get some idea. It's like a suffer-fest every second. Totally filthy, the seating area you get through customs (maybe 40 seats for a thousand passengers)."

Before, and as negative in this

airport it is rife and the scams don't the minute you walk off the plane," said another of his named Mercurio.

The website, however, acknowledged that "there is hope of this airport. It gets up to Terminal 3 when it is clean, spacious and has internet connection."

Improvements underway

Manila International Airport Authority General Manager Jose Angel Honrado said he expected the feedback, but added that he hoped the public would see the improvements at Naia.

"We are aware of the deficiencies. We really appreciate the feedback and we're trying to correct these things. But please understand that this will take time," he said.

He also encouraged Naia critics to visit Terminal 3 against and take note of the upgrades. He said they should understand that executing a 20-year-old facility is not easy.

Honrado noted efforts to fix bills at Terminal 1 evaluators to put in "a new order." He also said coordinated with immigration and customs officials would hopefully make it better.

For 'spillover' flights

In the next few years, he said "definitely" all international flights would move to Terminal 3 to make room for more flights and accommodate disputes with its builder, Philippine International Air Terminals Co.

Honrado said the government already has a mandate to upgrade Terminal 3, and he says no reason to ask Filipinos to develop it until it has some fully operational within "rain and a half years. "He, however, added that Terminal 1 would still likely be retained for "spillover" flights.

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THEN AND NOW Joslyn Pizarro, 19, high school undergraduate and youngest member of the so-called "Morong 43," is shown after her capture and during an interview on YouTube.

'Morong 43' defector marries soldier

From page A1

wedding sponsors.

But she asked that her new husband be referred to by the alias Private First Class Mathay, apparently for security reasons.

Pizarro, the youngest of the five who had claimed to be communist guerrillas and detained in the military, said her husband was not among the troops who arrested their group on Feb. 6, 2010, in Morong, Rizal province.

She said she met him in Camp Capinpin last December after the charges of illegal possession of firearms and explosives filed against the Morong 43 were officially dropped.

"His battalion came over for training. We met and got acquainted here," she told the hundreds over the phone, speaking in Filipino.

Pizarro, who turns 20 in August, said she had many suitors in Camp Capinpin but that she was so swept off her feet that she agreed to marry after three months of courting.

"He seemed serious in me, and besides I love him," she said.

Rallying point

The Morong 43, which included six medical practitioners, was arrested while attending a seminar on community healthcare at a resort in Morong, Rizal.

They were accused of being members of the New People's Army, the armed wing of the Communist Party of the Philippines, and of learning how to make explosives at the seminar—charges that they denied.

The Morong 43 became a rallying point for militant groups in the last year of the Arroyo administration and until the first few months of the Aquino administration.

Ten months after their arrest, President Aquino ordered their release after the dropping of charges, in a meeting and dining moment ahead of the resumption of peace talks between the government and communist rebels.

Two remain detained up to now on the strength of other criminal charges.

Pizarro and the four others who had claimed that they and the rest of Morong 43 were communist rebels—Mabelin Pasilloc, John Mark Barcimeno, Cherilyn Tiongson and Mona Carandang—are still in Camp Capinpin.

Release them

Jules Madlaing, a lawyer for the Morong 43, said the military should release Pizarro and the four others from Camp Capinpin to prove that they were indeed free.

In an interview, Madlaing said he and his colleagues had heard a report that one of the detainees in the military camp had married a soldier. He said that according to the report, Pizarro, the youngest of the detainees, had caught the eye of a soldier in the camp.

Madlaing said they could not confirm or deny this report as they had not been allowed to talk to the five since last year.

"We have no information on them. The military said they are free, but they are still in the camp," Madlaing said.

He said soldiers accompanied the five whenever they left the camp or were interviewed by reporters.

'Most cruel'

Last week, the six medical practitioners—two doctors, a nurse and three registered midwives—filed a P35-million damage suit against former President and now Pampanga Rep. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, her former defense chief, two former military chiefs and six incumbent military and police officials for physical and psychological torture.

When asked for comment, Pizarro said: "That's not true because nothing like that happened to me."

She said she turned her back on the armed rebellion because she had experienced sexual harassment in six NPA camps in Quezon province and had witnessed other harassment instances that were not acted upon.

"They did not respect women even if they say men and women are equal," Pizarro said.

"I was molested. I was groped when I was sleeping," she said, adding that she screamed and tried to grab her gun but could not lift it.

She said her molester, a vice squad leader, was merely demoted to being a regular guerrilla.

'It's better here'

Pizarro said she and her four colleagues had chosen to stay in Camp Capinpin out of their own volition.

She denied that they were being forced by soldiers to stay.

"That's not true because wherever we go it's OK. For us, we're secured. It's better that we're here. If we're outside the camp, it would be more dangerous because of our activities, our telling the truth," she said.

Pizarro said she would not feel safe outside the camp where her purported former comrades in the rebel movement would be able to get to her. She said some of them had managed to communicate with her, urging her to escape.

"I told them, it's better in live normally than little-all peace life. I want to live together with my family," she said. **With a report from Kristine L. Alave**

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DAY ONE April 10, 2011 (SUNDAY)
- 1:00 PM - Miss ng Pasasalamat - Cultural Center of Laguna
- 2:00 PM - Carnival Queen Mardigras Party - Festival Ground
- 4:00 PM - Sagala - Festival Ground
- 7:00 PM - Comedy Show - Festival Ground
- 10:00 PM - Fireworks Competition - Festival Ground

DAY TWO April 11, 2011 (MONDAY)
- 5:00 AM - Unang Hirit (GMA-7 - Festival Ground
- 8:00 AM - Grand Opening: Trade Fair Exhibit / Landscape Competition - Festival Ground
- 1:00 PM - Senior Citizens Ballroom Dance Competition - Cultural Center of Laguna
- 8:00 PM - Street Dance Competition - Festival Ground

DAY THREE April 12, 2011 (TUESDAY)
- 8:00 AM - Palosing Pinoy (Elementary Level) - Festival Ground
- 10:00 AM - Artisan's Village - Festival Ground
- 1:00 PM - Amateur Singing Contest (Elementary Level) - Cultural Center of Laguna
- 2:00 PM - Artisan's Village - Festival Ground
- 4:00 PM - Body Building Competition - La Laguna Grand Sagala (Laguna Designers Competition) - Cultural Center of Laguna
- 6:00 PM - Cultural Night - Main Stage, Festival Ground
- 8:00 PM - Pre-Pageant Night (Ginoong Laguna) - Main Stage, Festival Ground

DAY FOUR April 13, 2011 (WEDNESDAY)
- 7:00 AM - Drum and Lyre Competition - Festival Ground
- 8:00 AM - Palosing Pinoy (College/SK) - Festival Ground
- 10:00 AM - Artisan's Village - Festival Ground
- 1:00 PM - Amateur Singing Contest (Open Category) - Cultural Center of Laguna
- 2:00 PM - Artisan's Village - Festival Ground
- 4:00 PM - Little Mister Laguna 2011 Competition - La Laguna Grand Sagala (Laguna Designers Competition) - Cultural Center of Laguna
- 5:00 PM - Talentadong Lagunense 2011 - Main Stage, Festival Ground
- 8:00 PM - Pre-Pageant Night (Binibining Laguna) - Main Stage, Festival Ground

DAY FIVE April 14, 2011 (THURSDAY)
- 5:00 AM - Mass Calisthenics - Festival Ground
- 8:00 AM - Palosing Pinoy (High School) - Festival Ground
- 10:00 AM - Artisan's Village - Festival Ground
- 1:00 PM - Amateur Singing Contest (High School) - Cultural Center of Laguna
- 4:00 PM - Little Miss Laguna 2011 Competition - La Laguna Grand Sagala (Laguna Designers Competition) - Main Stage, Festival Ground
- 6:00 PM - Gawad Parangal - Cultural Center of Laguna
- 8:00 PM - Dance Revolution - Main Stage, Festival Ground

DAY SIX April 15, 2011 (FRIDAY)
- 5:00 AM - Umagang Kay Ganda ABS-CBN 2 - Festival Ground
- 7:30 AM - Biggest Polo Lumban - Festival Ground
- 8:00 AM - Brass Band Competition - Festival Ground
- 9:00 AM - Palosing Pinoy (Government Employees) - Festival Ground
- 10:00 AM - Bird Show - Festival Ground
- 1:00 PM - Body Painting Competition - Cultural Center of Laguna
- 4:00 PM - La Laguna Grand Sagala (Laguna Designers Competition) - Festival Ground
- 8:00 PM - Governor's Night - Main Stage, Festival Ground

DAY SEVEN April 16, 2011 (SATURDAY)
- 5:00 AM - Bike for Fun - Festival Ground
- 8:00 AM - Grand Float Parade Competition - Festival Ground
- 10:00 AM - Cooking Contest and Bartending Contest - Cultural Center of Laguna
- 2:00 PM - Dog Show Competition - Festival Ground
- 4:00 PM - La Laguna Grand Sagala (Laguna Designers Competition) - Festival Ground
- 8:00 PM - Ginoong Laguna 2011 - Main Stage, Festival Ground

DAY EIGHT April 17, 2011 (SUNDAY)
- 8:00 AM - Dragon Boat Competition - Sta. Cruz, Laguna River
- 10:00 AM - Banca Race - Sta. Cruz, Laguna River
- 1:00 PM - Fluvial Parade Competition - Sta. Cruz, Laguna River
- 4:00 PM - La Laguna Grand Sagala (Laguna Designers Competition) - Festival Ground
- 8:00 PM - Binibining Laguna 2011 - Main Stage, Festival Ground
- 11:00 PM - Fireworks Display - Festival Ground

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MABUTING PAMAMAHALA AT KUMPLETONG SERBISYO KONTRA KAHIRAPAN AT GUTOM

BAGONG LAGUNA. UNA SA LAHAT.

Coast Guard, MMDA gird for Holy Week

By Jerome Aning

THE PHILIPPINE Coast Guard (PCG) has intensified its safety and security measures to all seaports and ferry terminals ahead of the expected influx of province-bound passengers for the long Lenten break.

Coast Guard commandant Adm. Wilfredo Tamayo said they had set up passenger assistance centers to help desks at major seaports to address the concerns of passengers.

"The centers will particularly help reunite the orderly exit and secure embarkation of passengers and loading of cargo to give the PCG ample time for the boarding and inspection of vessels prior to departure," Tamayo said in a statement.

For those who want to visit churches on Holy Thursday, they can do so via the Internet.

The Catholic Church has made available the traditional Visita Iglesia on the Internet, which features 14 shrines and pilgrimage churches to accompany with the 14 Stations of the Cross with reflections given by priests.

Metro roads

To help ease traffic on roads leading to churches on Holy Thursday, Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) Chair Francis Tolentino made a patch for the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines' (CBCP) Visita Iglesia Online.

"The CBCP has the online Visita Iglesia, which others might want to try instead of traveling personally to the churches," said Tolentino during the weekly forum hosted by the Catholic Media Network in Intramuros, Manila, yesterday.

Tolentino said about 6,000 MMDA personnel would be deployed in major thoroughfares to assist travelers exiting churches and those bound for the provinces during the Holy Week.

Into twelve expressway lanes in province-bound passengers next week, Tolentino ordered motorists to use the "Skyway" lanes to alleviate stress to decongest the capital's major thoroughfares.

Heavy flow of traffic is expected starting 3 p.m. on Holy Wednesday until 3 a.m. the next day, he said.

Wakal na Araw

The PCG's Lenten preparations are part of the government's inter-agency program known as Oplan Ma-hahin Araw.

Tamayo said additional Coast Guard personnel have been deployed as hunter patrols, vessels, Batangas, Cebu and Cotabato.

They include sea marshals, special operations groups, K-9 personnel and members of special medical assistance response teams.

"Ship inspectors and canine teams should monitor every gangway to ports with random checks on passengers and baggage more than the usual," he said.

The PCG chief appealed to passengers to obey all stopping and port regulations and to be patient, understanding and cooperative with the vigilant security steps being enforced.

Passengers are advised not to bring any prohibited cargo as well any shiny and nonmetallic. These carrying firearms should present complete documents.

Tamayo said the sliding points should report immediately any suspicious baggage, especially those left unattended, to authorities and PCG personnel in the area or to any designated coast duty.

The PCG may be contacted through its hotlines, (02) 5273877 and 5276461 and via text through 0917-PCGDOTC or 0917-7243682. With reports from Ely

De Lima vows to take 1st step for 'Abadilla 5'

JUSTICE Secretary Leila de Lima has "promised" to endorse an appeal for clemency from the five men convicted of the murder of Ilocos intelligence officer Rolando Abadilla, opening the door to a pardon from President Aquino, activist priest Fr. Robert Reyes said yesterday.

Reyes, spiritual adviser to the five men, said he met with De Lima to follow up on the appeals o f Cesar Fortuna, Ramores de Jesus, Leonido Lumanog, Joel de Jesus and Reginaldo Ramos, collectively known as the "Abadilla 5."

He said De Lima "promised" to make the recommendation within the week for the Board of Pardons and Parole "to start working on the appeal for clemency."

"It's the first process toward being granted clemency," Reyes said, adding that the grounds would probably be humanitarian reasons.

"Cesar Lumanog is ailing while the other families continue to be devastated by what happened. I am sincere to the families' suffering," he said.

The five continued to maintain their innocence and claimed that they were tortured into admitting to the ambush of Abadilla on June 11, 1996, in Quezon City.

Their families said the Abadilla 5 were no longer interested in clearing their names but in seeking clemency from Mr. Aquino so they could rejoin their families.

The five men have been incarcerated at the New Bilibid Prisons in Muntinlupa for a decade, serving out the life terms meted out to them by the court that convicted them of Abadilla's killing. The Supreme Court has affirmed the conviction.

"We are hoping, looking an effort that they be granted clemency before the 15th anniversary of the killing," Reyes said. Nikko Dizon

INQUIRER

OPINION

Lust for entertainment

EDITORIAL

WILLIE REVILLAME, ABC-5 and their lawyers have called for a summit to chart specific rules on the use of children on broadcast entertainment programs. Lawyer Leonard de Vera urges the expansion of the inquiry on "Willing Willie" "to cover all TV programs with children and minors, whether as performers or game-show contestants." There's talk appears to be to spread the blame around.

To prevent the "Sara Jan: stashes-dinner" controversy as having been created by a supposedly grey area in broadcast entertainment in connection with the use of child performers in the case of the Channel 5 show of child contestants. They are saying that since no clear rules exist, no rules have been broken. In short, Revillame et al. plead not guilty.

Of course, no clear rules have been broken when seen from the eyes of the hide-bound and the blind. The same could be said by broadcast journalists who covered the Aug. 23, 2010 Luneta hostage-taking incident whose eagerness to scoop each other made them broadcast the incident 24/7 and disdose unconscionably the police operations, aborting the hostage-taking and later helping trigger the bloodbath that left eight tourists dead. Until the furor over the bloody aftermath, they had not restrained their coverage, arguing that they were providing the public blow-by-blow accounts of events in the interest of the truth.

Alas, what links the Luneta massacre and the "Sara Jan" scandal is entertainment. Lust for entertainment has blurred the boundaries between diversion and information, between fiction and reality. Now, even information is "infotainment." Everything is sacrificed on the altar of entertainment.

Lust for entertainment explains why despite the visible misuse with which Jun Jun mimicked a male stripper, Revillame guided him on with the promise of P10,000. And despite breaking into tears finally the kid continued the lewd dance, compelled as he was by buckles of the studio audience and perhaps, of the rest of viewery nationwide. It is probably because of the rather "positive" reaction of TV audiences that De Vera said there was "nothing obscene" about the dance, since "dance has become part of Filipino culture . . . [and in] many Filipino homes, children dance their way during family gatherings." In short, lewd dancing is a Filipino pastime, it's based on entertainment. And unfortunately, that's the case. The nation has no idea that the brand of what Hannah Arendt, in the context of Nazi horrors, called "the banality of evil."

It is lust for entertainment that enabled Revillame to recover from the Ultra stampede fiasco in 2006, in which 70 people were crushed to death so that his former afternoon show on ABS-CBN was restored. It's the same lust that has enabled several afternoon shows like his and "Eat Bulaga!" on GMA-7 to become the steady diet of at least two generations of Filipinos. And it's the same lust that Revillame has capitalized on for his ABC-5 primetime show, "Willing Willie," so that now, Filipinos can junk during both lunch and dinner. And all of this has had the support of television audiences, the advertising industry, big business and even state and industry monitoring agencies.

Lewd and trashy programs and child-unfriendly shows have long been proliferating, but the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board, National Telecommunications Commission, Kapisanan ng mga Broadcaster ng Pilipinas, Ad Board and even broadcast award-giving bodies have chosen to play blind as far as the canons of good taste are concerned. They are as guilty as Revillame and his unobservant audience to goading Jun Jun to dance a la Chippendales.

Perhaps something good may come out of this. By all means, let there be a meeting for the setting of clear professional standards for broadcast entertainment programming. But first, there should be recognition of how far TV and radio have become producers of shallow, crass and now, child-abusive, entertainment; and how the advertising industry, the corporate world, and state agencies have abetted it all in the name of entertainment. In the end, broadcast audiences—the public—should recognize how their passive and uncritical consumption of TV images and messages has enabled broadcast to foster a veritable national culture that has compelled stars like Jun Jun to dance like a nitpicker before the whole world ever which they find nothing terribly wrong—all in the name of cheap, banal entertainment.

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Of income taxes and liver transplants

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

TOMORROW after tomorrow, Friday, is the deadline for filing income tax returns, so Revenue Commissioner Kim Henares went to the Rapidan in Manila at the Diamond Hotel last Monday to appeal to taxpayers in the time CDs more and awaken the conscience of those who still owe money and a surcharge if you file late, she said. Also, pay the correct taxes because if you don't, you will be liable to a charge of failure to pay the correct taxes, just like Rep. Wilfrer Mitra's.

Henares, who was immediately asked for another case problem, is facing two charges: 1. failure to file CDs and 2. non-payment of the correct taxes for some years. The cases are quite simple, Henares explained, and no amount of crying "political harassment" would change that.

One, did he or did he not file CDs for those years? The other case all lawyers have to do is show copies of the CDs he filed (there are no such records in the BIR). If he can't show them, then he did not file.

Two, did he pay the correct taxes for those questioned years? The BIR says he did not and proof exists from Antipolo himself. In comparing his statements of assets and liabilities and Net Worth (SALN) with his ITRs for the same years, the BIR discovered that his wealth increased by more than his declared income. Where did he get the funds to acquire those assets? He must have more income for those years than he did not declare and for which he should pay more taxes, interest, surcharge, like a fish, since he income more money.

I asked Henares if, after the yearly publication of the various amnesties and congressmen listed on their SALNs, they compare them with their ITRs to see if the assets they paid are proportionate to their declared income. I suppose not, but Bill also publish the names paid by the various amnesty and congressmen so that the people will see if they are getting the correct taxes. I told that some members of Congress may have a weakness for certain assets, especially cars. At the beginning of their term, on the other they acquire unexplained wealth later, this would be explained by their earlier SALNs. By comparing their SALNs with their ITRs, we would be able to see if they paid the correct tax. So if, for instance, they declare a car in their SALN, they must have declared in their ITR how they paid for the car. Otherwise, they will be liable for tax evasion.

Henares also said that she is willing to meet with the various Filipino businessmen and if they are properly declaring their wealth. The BIR chief replied that some of the businessmen pay huge corporate income taxes (assuming it is their corporation that pay the taxes) but little personal income taxes.

On the public officials, she said there are no amnesties, especially justices of the Supreme Court, are very sensitive of their SALNs and what to show them to the BIR.

Aren't there public records? Yes, there are, she replied, but they will go to court to get a court order to look at them. Assuming they may be too suspect if their wealth are made public.

Dr. Antonio Dans that his family is being singled out for prosecution because of politics, Henares said that is not true. She is not a political person, she said. "I'm even know the political affiliations of people we change. Tax change does something to be evidence we get it. We are not singling out members of the opposition. At good we have filed tax evasion charges against a political leader of the President in Bulacan."

How for the good news: Senators said that those earning the minimum wage need not file any ITR. Also, those whose only employer is already deducting and paying the correct taxes from their salaries need not file. However, if you are receiving income from service more employers, you still have to file.

Also at the Rapidan as Diamond last Monday, were three doctors from St. Luke's Medical Center: Juliet Lopez-Cervantes, chief of St. Luke's Center for Liver Diseases, Willy Ordinario, head of liver transplant surgery, and Ian Gea, transplant hepatologist. They were accompanied by St. Luke's spokesperson Marilen Danguilan-Lagtolon.

They happily announced that they can now perform liver transplants in St. Luke's. In fact, they have made a successful transplant just recently, which should entice patients with irreversible liver diseases happy. The last cases is costs P1.9 million in St. Luke's, but it is still the cheapest in the world.

The cheapest, honestly, the doctors said, is prevention. Preserve your liver by not drinking liquor excessively, avoiding food rich in fat and cholesterol, being picky with what you eat and drink (be sure they're not contaminated), and avoiding smoking yourself and also avoiding smoke in environment.

Among diseases of the liver are cirrhosis of the liver which leads to cancer caused by excessive alcohol intake, and hepatitis, caused by contaminated food and drink and contact. Hepatitis A swells, commonly caused by drug addicts. There are three types of hepatitis: A, B, and C.

Unfortunately, there are no early symptoms for liver diseases. By the time it is discovered, the liver is already advanced. For safety, have regular blood tests to check the health of your liver.

The good news is that livers as be transplanted can be taken from live donors or from cadavers. Only a part of the liver (usually the left) is needed to transplant, and the transplanted liver and the liver from which it was taken both grow into normal sizes to about three months.

In time, liver transplants will be as commonplace as heart transplants. And better for the liver donors. As their grows back to normal very quickly, unlike the kidney donor who loses one of his kidneys permanently.

It's complicated

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

I SYMPATHIZE with Monique Wilson. It's no longer Willie Revillame, she says. It's the quality of Philippine TV that's bursting down the Filipinos. The question is "how are, as Filipinos, so serious involved in the same thing that created Willie Revillame and those like his, could have allowed them to get so far and so long as it has."

He should not feel pernicious before this, Wilson says. We can always console the spectacle of quintessentially shows or make use of contemporaneous analogies to "Eat Bulaga" which is unacceptable to us. "Artists defended the cut of wives stand up for their rights and speak out against child assault on their art or craft, or in short their very being, even in the case of not being given work." Ouch.

TV is a powerful tool. "It should be used to educate, empower, inspire and awaken."

I agree. But I have a different take on how to produce getting there.

I have no problem with persons and have repeatedly encouraged it where I thought it was talented, if not tried to execute it myself. I have no problem with the public bemoaning TV shows, or movies, or products they find patently offensive. I wouldn't mind a measure of do-it-yourself censorship, which I find fascinating.

But I have a problem with calling for an act of boycott of, and government intervention in, shows they deem exploitative or immoral. While that can be effective in the short run, that can also be disproportionate in the long run. That will put editorial content at the mercy of advertisers, the Church, and governments. Congressmen are not exactly the best persons to monitor the forays of TV to. They, along with the senators, were the ones riding hot on long sign to join the "people's uprising" till a thing that would have barred newspapers and TV stations to publish or air their responses to any perceived slight. That won't improve the quality of journalism.

I have no problem with protests—if the right kind. Boycotts aren't bore that. Campaign placards would be more effective if they were accompanied by a couple of things.

The first is appealing to enlightened self-interest. Appealing to the idea that the kind of TV we have is not only bad for the country but bad for business. That it is not only bad for the country but bad for business. That it is not only bad for the country but bad for business. That it

Food protests and food democracy

COMMENTARY

By Robin Broad and John Cavanagh

WASHINGTON—Like bigger sea foam from skyrocketing rice prices has risen from "mom-and-pop" Wall, once again, food prices around the world are surging. Just between July of this year and this January, wheat prices have doubled, soybeans, corn and sugar prices have risen to record levels of 2008, when angry storms surged huge protests in dozens of countries. Currently, protesters across the Middle East have linked food prices among their demands. Before food shortages set in, however, policymakers people starve.

The food crunch farmers with whom we have been spending time in the Philippines and elsewhere are not affected by these price swings primarily because they don't have much surplus to sell when they have one, and they sell the rest to local markets. These farmers have achieved at the household level what Franco Ilocano Lopez terms "food democracy," and what the small farmer coalition, Via Campesina, calls "food sovereignty" at the national level.

A country has food sovereignty when its people consume safe and nutritious food largely grown by its own small farmers. Significantly, fewer countries have food sovereignty today than in the past. This is not surprising since the reigning development model pushed by the World Bank and other experts has left countries exporting more cash crops like flowers and gourmet vegetables, and importing more rice and wheat.

But there is more to food sovereignty than just freedom from food imports. In richer countries, food purchases make up a relatively small percentage of household budgets. In the United States, consumers spend on average only 7 percent of their budgets on food, although that number rises in poor urban neighborhoods. But in the Philippines, Jamaica and Egypt, the average family spends over a third of its budget on food, and that rises when people find food prices have fairly more pieces of their livelihoods.

Like food, countries figure used to grow what its people ate. Today, however, it is one of the world's largest wheat importers, importing over half the wheat that its people eat. As a result, ordinary Egyptians are now hostage to the whims of armies or catastrophes in other countries and countries.

Rice trading by speculators on commodity futures markets. Wheat prices are spiking in part because of severe droughts in China and flooding in Australia, and those higher prices are felt immediately by food markets across the poorer countries.

Second and third, these people are the bulk of their subsistence from their jobs. In almost all countries, this means that we villages or cities. But, unwanted how dependent countries have become on imports for those most important food items, and we were stunned by the results. Here's how: Net one grain is for, and it imports over 80 percent of the rice Haitians eat. Indians and Mexicans are likewise vulnerable because such imports skyrocketed since the 1994 North American Free Agreement. Most, so, the foreigners of corn, fuel by food markets tipped over by the demands of free trade agreements with the US and Canada and now replicated them of its sister countries.

The ongoing protests need to grow the one majority of the rice their people eat, as despite dependence result to be less than the Philippines is one of the leading rice importers. Rice imports accounts for as much as a sixth of Philippine consumption year in and year out. As a result, rising rice prices in 2008 cut the nation in half.

Responding to robust concerns about such vulnerability to global rice markets, the nation government has set ambitious goals on eliminating imports within three years, and protects its home rice imports for you.

There are food sovereignty lessons as to be learned from such countries as Africa. Most of the safe Saharan countries are net less food import dependents than Indians in Latin America and Asia. Hence, they are less affected by spiraling food prices. In addition, as food prices have risen, there is more evidence that in several of these countries, people are resulting to home-grown cassava and sorghum in place of imported food.

Understandably many immigrant families are more concerned with survival, including those in sub-Saharan Africa, to look further into the global economy. But, while the World Bank continues to push trade-dependent approaches, hundreds of groups, from Philippine farm organizations to Haitian women in rice fields and Asian farmers, are promoting alternatives. So—as in the United Nations food conference—the battle to food, who has been gathering evidence from poorer countries where food democracy and food sovereignty have been used to boost food production. Special Rapporteur Olivier de Schutter summed up the findings: "We need a shift away from the old paradigm. We need a shift away from the old paradigm. We need a shift away from the old paradigm.

Glaring crimes call for quick gov't action

TWO REFERS to Neal Cruz's April 6 column which cited two serious felonies that require immediate government action.

The first felony was about the scandalous by-related General Jose Angel A. Honrado, general manager of the Manila International Airport Authority, of the entire 55.5-billion budget for the Ninoy Aquino International Airport Terminal 3 without any consultation with Congress. That's disappropriation of public funds, which is a clear violation of Sec. 25(1) of Republic Act No. 9184 (The Government Procurement Reform Act) in relation to Article 220 of the Revised Penal Code.

This crime of Cruz is sufficient ground for the Ombudsman to initiate an investigation of Honrado, under Article III, Sec. 13, (1) of the Constitution, which provides:

"Section 13. The Office of the Ombudsman shall have the following powers, functions and duties:

"(1) Investigate on its own, or on complaint by any person, any act or omission of any public official, employee, office or agency, when such act or omission appears to be illegal, unjust, improper or inefficient."

The second felony is Willie Revillame's attempted violation and exploitation of Jan-Jan Susa, an act clearly punishable under Articles 6 and 10 of Republic Act No. 7610, and RA 7658, which penalizes "all forms of neglect, abuse, cruelty, exploitation, discrimination and other conditions prejudicial to the development of the child."

Executive Order 275, effective on Sept. 14, 1995, created a "Special Committee for Children," which is chaired and co-chaired by the justice and social welfare secretaries, respectively. These two Cabinet members should commence the prosecution of all persons who appear to be involved in the Jan-Jan Susa case, for lording his parents.

—EDGAR CRUZ, ULANTAY,
Ateneje Law Office,
La Flora, Quezon City

On Willie, Conrad fails as activist, journalist

"NO INVESTIGATION, no right to speak." That was the motion of the Blue Quarrel Bird in action, and it proved there in good mood during the recent hearing by the Senate blue ribbon committee and mobilizing people-loud-running chief-senior.

Inquirer columnist Conrado de Quiros raises point in his activist days, but I'm afraid that he has completely forgotten Chesterton Man Jo-dang's impeachment on the opinions nearly five-before opening new month. Well, maybe blue is no better use of human nowadays but, then, who would question his motivation and fire?

De Quiros has not only professed what must be an activist's credentials, which include an ardent investigation of a moral phenomenon, but also a journalist's equally sacred duty which is to get the facts right.

De Quiros concludes from the YouTube video of 4-year-old Jan-Jan Susa's March 22 appearance on TV5's game show "Willing Willie" that honor is lost while Revillame commanded child abuse by subverting the good crying kid to "just stopping hamilat ka."

But then maybe we can forgive De Quiros for not being a lawyer. Because lawyers are saying that from the legal point of view there's no child abuse because the use of child abuse is the effect of the supposed abuse on the child. Jan-Jan has been a media actress by his TV appearances, live by the loser talk and famous coming from certain quarters, and the fear that he/she would be sent to jail.

The lawyers are also saying that there is also no legal basis to pin down Revillame for making Jan-Jan perform a "loser" dance, because the dance movements were clearly not intended to evoke prurient thoughts or to arouse lasciviousness, for to showcase Jan-Jan's dancing talents, for sure, no less.

If there's no legal basis for child abuse, where does that leave the Department of Social Welfare and Development and the Commission on Human Rights which have judged Revillame guilty-as-have-been-hearing his case?

And where does that leave De Quiros, who even sided his April 4 column, "Big stakeholder" Was he perhaps referring to himself with his wonder-ability to emerge from a radical activist in 1979 to a martial law defender from a jailed anti-Gay to equally jailed pro-Gay, and now catalyst-I-Sey, #EarthQuiros?

—BENJAMIN CRUZ,
villanueva.red.2011@gmail.com

Pain a necessary part of military training

THE VIDEO showing Philippine Army soldiers purportedly inflicting pain and violence on military trainees can be viewed from two perspectives.

Those who are out to destroy the credibility of the Armed Forces of the Philippines will use the video footage to portray the soldiers as tormentors.

From my viewpoint, however, I think it is necessary for the Armed Forces to subject would-be soldiers to intensive training in all aspects of soldiery such as pain-tolerance testing. This should be done in order to condition—mentally, psychologically and physically—future soldiers to the most possible situations they might encounter on the battlefield. How can they protect us if they have inadequate training and are unable to handle difficult challenges?

Training would-be soldiers means making them capable of serving and protecting us and the nation, into means in instilling obedience, sheer the kind of hardiness and pain-fun endurance civilians are not exposed to experience.

A retired military man once told me that he is so thankful for the way the military matured him, for it provided him the character to withstand problem-laden situations in the face of battle.

—BENJAMIN CYAN BOQUIL,
benjaminboquil@yahoo.com

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Why Chevron prices stay steady in Baguio

BAGUIO CITY—Pump prices were again increased yesterday, but the prices of Chevron (Caltex) did not move as the turnaround expired.

Chevron's pump prices stood steady in Baguio because officials ordered its dealers here to cut gasoline prices by P1.50 a liter, heeding the plea of dealers who had lost customers due to the unusually high costs of fuel.

A series of inquiries conducted by the city council starting in 2000 has led to one conclusion: Baguio pump prices are higher by P2 to P2.50 than in the neighboring provinces of Pangasinan and La Union because of additional freight cost and the relatively smaller volume of fuel consumption in the city.

During the March 28 session of the city council, gasoline dealers led by Vhel Quintanilla acknowledged that high fuel prices had cut their potential revenues because households traveling to Baguio mostly filled their tanks in the city.

Unanimous vote

Vice Mayor Daniel Fariñas told the council and unanimously to pass a resolution urging oil firms to reduce Baguio pump prices, after being told by Department of Energy officials that the agency could not compel a price reduction in Baguio.

Chevron ordered the price rollback yesterday morning, supposedly after its dealers had expired the week, said Mary Ann Gacad, a Chevron dealer and president of the local LPG (liquefied petroleum gas) dealers' association group.

Responding to a question, Gacad said the decision was issued with the advisory of Holy Week, where Baguio expects to receive the bulk of its visitors, including motorists from the neighboring provinces.

Gacad said gasoline dealers had observed that many tourists filled their vehicles' tanks in La Union before proceeding to Baguio.

"When they leave, they buy only enough to drive down to the nearest local gasoline station where they again fill up," she said, adding that local dealers "stand to be negatively hit."

Chevron did not indicate whether it would make the cost reduction permanent for Baguio consumers, Gacad said.

As of yesterday, Chevron was selling gasoline at P62.95, P62.31 and P55.66 per liter, and diesel at P50.98.

Shell was selling its gasoline at P63.05, P62.28 and P59.79 per liter, and diesel at P51.95. Hospers Calderon, with a report from Gerlinda Mendo, Inquirer Northern Luzon

Oil prices up again

From page A1

DOE), the latest increase brought the price of diesel to P46.45 to P49 a liter, and the price of gasoline to P52.60 and P60.81 a liter—twice being record high levels in 2008.

This is the 10th time that local oil companies raised their prices since the beginning of 2011.

The total increase now amounts to P9.40 a liter for gasoline and P9.05 a liter for diesel, the total industries remain marginal at P1.75 a liter for gasoline and P1.25 a liter for diesel.

Right to peaceful assembly

The militant transport group Pinoy Bawang Sambayan ng Tsuper at Opereytor Nagkakaisahin (Pistons) said it would mount fresh protests, including transport strikes, in May if the government failed to address the spiraling costs of fuel.

Piston, which yesterday picketed Shell's headquarters in Makati City to protest the latest hike, also urged President Benigno Aquino III's spokesperson Edwin Lacierda's supposed threat against the group.

"Our security advice to the President is not to hesitate to use all tools in dispersing a crowding public," Piston secretary general George Ilan Estino said in a statement, adding that the right of Filipinos to hold peaceful mass actions to "seek redress to grievances" was protected by the Constitution.

Lacierda had earlier warned Piston to ensure that its protest actions against fuel price increases would not "inflict the unforgivable," or it would have to "face the consequences."

Wrong advice

In a statement, the militant Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan) pointed out that the latest price increases had wiped out the government's planned Personal Rounds cash bailout it could be implemented.

It charged the President to "for the umpteenth time stop for giving him wrong advice."

"Still, the P1.30 cuts first increase in the price of diesel, the daily fuel cost of jeepney drivers has again risen by P48, based on their average daily consumption of 30 liters, Bayan said. On the other hand, the Personal Rounds will provide a monthly subsidy of only P95 a day, and will not even be available until next month, it said.

Under the fuel assistance program, jeepney drivers will be given tansel cards worth P3,050 (P95 a day) which they can use to buy fuel or send themselves or descendants on congressional buses. The cards will be distributed starting May 2.

Tricycle drivers will receive P150 (P5 a day).

Bayan secretary general Renato Reyes said that Mr. Aquino's presidency was moving in one year mark. "But in terms of economic policies, we have not seen a substantial change from the unpopular and dehumanizing policies of the previous administration," he said.

Reyes said "is easy to point" was the reason being oil prices and why Aquino's decision, "on the advice of his economic managers, to implement a Personal Rounds instead of addressing the main important issues of jeepney drivers, the super-skilled use (SUC) and profiteering of the oil firms."

The Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) had also [illegible] transport operators who would join strike to defend the cancellation of their franchises for failing to do their duty of providing mass transportation services to commuters.

But Pistons has Mario said that if the government failed to stop the fuel price hikes, the group would have no choice but to go on strike.

"We can just defend ourselves," Mabayanang's

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100 years of Protestantism in Baguio

By Maurice Malanes
Baguio City

IN THE EARLY landscapes of Baguio City from the 1920s to the 1930s, a simple chapel which evolved into a cathedral had stood proud on the west side of Burnham Park.

This structure announced the advent of Protestantism, whose seeds were first sown by early Filipino converts evangelized by Dr. Howard W. Widdoes, an American missionary. Widdoes and his wife arrived in the country in 1904 and began their mission in La Union.

Some of the Ilocano converts moved to Baguio and together with more converts "came together in fellowship" on Feb. 11, 1911, to establish the Evangelical United Brethren (EUB).

The EUB soon became the Baguio United Evangelical Church, which came to be known as the "Protestant Cathedral" in the 1930s, the forerunner of what is now the United Church of Christ in the Philippines (UCCP)-Baguio.

Now 100 years old, the UCCP-Baguio held a three-day celebration of "a century of God's faithfulness and love." Some 1,000 members paraded with torches around the city on Feb. 11, launched a commemorative book, dedicated a historical marker's site, and attended a "Faith Founders Wall" on Feb. 12, and held a centennial anniversary thanksgiving and worship service on Feb. 13.

Historical

"This centennial celebration is very historical because it is very much part of the history of Protestantism in the country and the history of Baguio as a chartered city," says Bishop Marino Gorong, UCCP-Baguio area pastor. Baguio was established as a chartered city by the Americans on Sept. 1, 1909.

Like other mainstream Protestant churches in the Philippines, the UCCP traces its roots to the American missionaries, who came to the archipelago at the turn of the 20th century.

The first missionaries served as chaplains of the US Armed Forces, which occupied the country after Spain ceded the Philippines to the United States in 1898 under the Treaty of Paris.

For better coordination and to avoid duplication, the American colonizers and their missionaries partitioned the Philippines for mission work.

On April 26, 1901, they formed what was called the Evangelical Union, which was preceded by a Board of Christian Strategy composed of missionaries who were in the country before the Union.

The idea of the Union was to divide the country into areas and to mission was assigned as area for evangelical work.

The UCCP-Baguio sprang from the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, a small mission led by Dr. Widdoes couple in La Union. Later, the mission expanded to the Cordillera through Baguio.

After Baguio was established as a chartered city, "what became a common capital also became perfect fertile ground for evangelization," says a UCCP-Baguio historical document.

Peacetime bliss, war

The UCCP-Baguio edifice entered both peacetime bliss and the painful impact of the last war.

Despite difficulties, the period from the early 1900s until 1939 was considered "peacetime bliss," which enabled mission workers to build and plant churches.

The simple EUB chapel was transformed into a Gothic church in 1928. It was formally dedicated in April 1930 and renamed the Baguio Evangelical Church.

But that calm was disrupted from 1940 to 1945 during the Japanese invasion. With the presence of the American established Camp John Hay Air Base in Baguio, Japanese planes dropped bombs on what was a quiet and beautiful mountain city in the early morning of Dec. 8, 1941.

Every resident was caught by surprise after 27 planes circled the city once and came back flying over Camp John Hay and dropping bombs. Despite the war, which left many Filipinos homeless and forced others to flee to the hills, the Baguio Evangelical Church served as safe haven.

On March 15, 1945, the Americans bombed Baguio, shelling suspected Japanese camps and trenches. The church was not spared.

Those who took refuge in the church basement were "thankful for the Lord's hand and saved from further agony and anguish," says a UCCP-Baguio historical document.

Baltazar Gorchalian, one of the refugees, recalled how "they prayed hard and begged the Lord to save all those huddled in the church basement."

After the smoke cleared, they saw a big hole in the wall caused by shrapnel, just a corner and a half above their heads. Despite the terror and anguish, and "with tears of joy we thanked and praised God with loud voices," Gorchalian said. "How God answered prayers!"

THE UNITED Church of Christ in the Philippines in Baguio has been the spiritual guide that nurtured the faith of its members in the past 100 years.

Rebuilding

The UCCP-Baguio was one of the first buildings to rise in the postwar landscape, says Erlyn Ruth Montalvo, a church historian but it was rebuilt on the original foundations of the Protestant Cathedral.

"To many survivors, this became the symbol of strength they needed to help them heal from the trauma of war," Alexander says.

Together with the rising of the church also grew a firm bond of Christian fellowship among church members as they faced the aftermath of war together with a stronger, deeper faith in God," she says.

After the war, the UCCP-Baguio helped rebuild Baguio through its evangelization and literacy programs. There, it ran, helped develop local leaders, says Bishop Emeritus Auni Bintigan, a former UCCP-Baguio pastor.

According to a UCCP-Baguio primer, the programs also "helped reconstruct and rehabilitate the psyche and spirit of a traumatized people."

Today, after 100 years and with a membership of 800 strong, the church has "kept alive many time-honored traditions that fostered Christian fellowship," Montalvo says.

In Montalvo's historical presentation, the UCCP-Baguio paid tribute to its "Faith Founders" and to leaders involved in various aspects of community life—volunteers, lawyers, judges, doctors, media practitioners, cultural workers and other professionals.

TOURISTS enjoy a boat ride in Baguio's Burnham Park lake.

Looking beyond Burnham Park for tourism

By Frank Cimatu
Baguio City

BAGUIO residents have found the Oscar award-winning "American beauty" lamenting, not for the stereotypic rose or unexpected visitation but because the family in the movie is renowned Burnham and they want to know how to properly pronounce it.

That said (the "it" is silent), the role of the mountain city's popular Burnham Park is closely pronounced not only during American architect Daniel Burnham's time but even now.

University of the Cordilleras last year spent 40 months crafting a Burnham Park development plan that will give the former exile drinking area 69.15 billion facelift.

It is up to the city government to follow the UC plan, a couple of years ago, it started refurbishing the children's park and a people led by Bishop Carlito Cenzon has been bringing the area through funds from residents and private institutions.

Although Burnham Park has become synonymous with Baguio, concerned residents are asking the city to look beyond to give tourism more options.

An informal group led by Isabel Oggiin, Rubeo Mendoloden, Lucila Lim Perez and others recently met with Councilor Elmer Datuin to discuss the state of public parks in the city.

The Japanese Memorial Garden, Mary's Hinikis Park and zone farmers in the Baguio Centennial Park, is getting its own share of attention, Datuin says. The Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (formerly Philippine Tourism Authority) is plunking 95 million for its improvement.

Irene Jean Marasigan and Ma. Teresa Criselda Bonanno of the College of Architecture, is coming out with a layout for the park to showcase the city's history from its roots as "Kafagway" (cradle in the advent of the Americans, its destruction during World War II, the golden age of Baguio tourism in the 1970s, the 1990 earthquake and its present state.

Datuin says the city plans to give P12 million to build a natural amphitheater in the Centennial Park that will sit 500 people.

Investors from Baguio's sister cities in Japan, also showed the tunnels used by Japanese soldiers during the war. The cave network, which is 200 meters long, can be a unique experience for tourists, Datuin says.

Problem: parks

The other public parks, however, are in dire straits.

Wright Park, for example, is beset with shanties. What started as five has ballooned to 28, Oggiin's group reported.

Another is the Pine Trees of the World, which was envisioned to have as many pine species there all over the world as possible. Today one can see "foreign species infestation," it should be noted that none of the foreign trees survived.

Miners View, which was opened to showcase the burgeoning mining area in Itogon, Benguet, in the 1960s, has gained the nickname "No Miner, No View." It has been invaded by stalls and the view is now of housing projects.

Datuin says the city government is planning to purchase more than 400 stalls then to a single building to decongest the path.

The area that the mining industry wanted to develop is the former Diplomat Hotel compound, which gave her a sanctuary to the Dominican priests in the 1930s. No improvement has been introduced in the area, Oggiin says, and the Presidential Management Staff would like to get it back from the city government.

The mining industry wants to convert the area into a museum, while a Christian group wants to turn it into a worship area. While waiting for the result of the impasse, some groups, like street art clubs, have been using the grounds as shooting arena.

Assistant Editor Tony Bergonia

Across the NATION

Governor drops ID plan in Pampanga

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—Pampanga Gov. Lilia Pineda has stopped pushing a barangay identification system, which is one of two contentious issues in a proposed ordinance she certified as urgent to the provincial board on Feb. 7.

In a statement on Tuesday, she instead urged barangay officials to keep and maintain a registry of residents, including newcomers, in their areas. The task is in the hands of the barangay secretary, an appointive official.

This week Pineda cited the Local Government Code of 1991 (Republic Act No. 7160) as a basis for a barangay registry.

But the barangay registry that is allowed by the code's Section 394 does not require the issuance of identification cards. Proposed Ordinance No. 400, or the Barangay Information System and Safety Plan (BISSP), required the issuance of IDs and the creation of the database from the barangay, city, town and provincial levels. RA 7160 limits the information only to names, addresses and occupations. BISSP does not make any reference to nonresidents.

But Pineda has not changed her tune with regard to curbing criminality and an unrelenting transients, some of whom were found in the involved in crimes in the province.

"It would be a big help in our law enforcers if we regularly update and strengthen our barangay records," she said. "If information is readily available, modeling strategies at reducing crime could be done through its passage two can easily step and solve crimes and collar illegal activities[.]."

The proposed ordinance, however, has yet to be withdrawn by its proponent, Board Member Crisostomo Garbo said.

Last week and on the heels of outcry by human rights group, the committee on rules and procedures of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan (provincial board) decided to set public hearings on the BISSP.

Board Member Saul Macalisang, the committee chair, said the committee is also open to revising the BISSP's draft.

"We will consider public hearings to help remedy our concerns and craft a law that will really help," he said.

He said, however, that the measure was legal. Garbo filed it after the police found six additional cases for car theft syndicates in the province.

Macalino said it was premature for critics to call the measure a threat to rights to privacy and security.

Garbo said the measure intends to "make a profile of residents within a barangay only."

KIDS, a group of civil society groups, said there was no movement to legislate the creation of a barangay registry because one was made mandatory by RA 7160.

Memorandum Circular No. 2008-144 by former Interior Secretary Ronaldo Puno reiterated the "maintenance and updating of records of all inhabitants of the barangay." It said the memorandum does not state the need to issue IDs. Ernesto Dreyza, Inquirer Central Luzon

COA: 'Grave irregularities' in Ozamiz City finance deals

OZAMIZ CITY—The Commission on Audit (COA) said it found "grave irregularities" in the financial transactions of the city government.

But Mayor Reza Princess Echavez downplayed the report and maintained she and her officials have not done anything unlawful.

In a report submitted on Wednesday last week, which reporters obtained on Monday, Laura May Gracanga, head of the special audit team formed by the COA in Misamis Occidental, said among the anomalies they uncovered was the failure of the city government to remit pension funds from real property taxes and community tax certificates to the city's 51 barangays from 2008 to September 2010.

The funds amounted to about P46 million.

The COA report said the unremitted violations of the provisions of Republic Act No. 7160 or the Local Government Code of 1991.

The COA team also said it found the city government suffered cash overdrafts of P382 million from June to September last year.

At least P6 million in premiums for employees' insurance coverage were also delinquent.

The COA team said the city government's expenses on wages was limited to P66 million. The approved allowances, it said, was only P29.4 million.

The COA team said it further discovered that wages for the July and September 2010 salaries, P13.4 million—were paid without documentation.

Echavez said the presidential anomaly screened from presidential lapses.

She also cited the supposed differences in the auditing procedures used by the city's accounting office and that of the special audit team.

Echavez said its money was lost and that it can be proven.

Tito Pal, chapter president of Mindanao

SEASONAL GORE
In this 2008 photo, people of Sariaya, Quezon, barely pay attention to those examples of Holy Week penitence, which have become tourist-drawing extravaganzas. The Catholic Church, however, continues to discourage the practice. INQUIRER PHOTO

Ex-SC chief: IBP ready to help in 'green' cases

BUTUAN CITY—Former Chief Justice Reynato Puno has urged environmental and nature-oriented groups to tap the Integrated Bar of the Philippines (IBP) in the fight to curb destructive logging and mining activities in the Caraga region.

Puno said green groups, which are at the forefront of the environment protection, should not lose hope even if there was a "lack of effective enforcement" of environment laws by the government.

Speaking at Saturday's launching of a major tree planting project spearheaded by the local government, Puno said the legal services of local IBP chapters "could be drawn in going after and prosecuting environmental law violators."

> The local IBP chapter ... will help us in prosecuting violators of our environmental laws...

'Green force'

"The IBP has created a special task force and if there are environmental violations we can seek its help. The local IBP chapters, through its green force, will help us in prosecuting violators of our environmental laws," said the former chief justice, who is credited for organizing the so-called green courts during his term.

Puno said the IBP's plays a crucial role to the prosecution of illegal loggers and miners and enforcement of environmental laws.

Puno also reiterated the need to plant more trees and for the people to be actively engaged in the government's forest preservation and protection efforts.

Cleaning Mt. Apo

In Kidapawan City, authorities on Tuesday announced they have succeeded in the drive to keep Mt. Apo clean.

Marie Fe Pates, of the city's promotion office, said from 147 garbage in 2009, this year's trek only yielded 367 kilograms of waste.

"We succeeded in educating our trekkers," Pates said. Those who violated forest guards and volunteers for the success of the drive.

She said forest guards and volunteers rigorously inspect trekkers to see if they didn't leave any garbage in the mountain.

Trekkers who failed to do so were fined P500. Shim said. Franklin Caligpid and Rillianne Magbatoss, Inquirer Mindanao

P-Noy urged to act on case of 2 missing for 4 years

By Nestor F Burgos Jr.
Inquirer Visayas

ILOILO CITY—Families, friends and colleagues of two missing Bayan activists marked the fourth year of their disappearance on Tuesday with renewed calls for authorities to recover them.

Protesters joined a march from the Iloilo provincial capitol to the Plaridel Gay concession to hold a brief program to demand government action on the case of Ms. Lidia Pena-Dantinalla and Nilo Anaño.

Protesters, led by the Save Lidia and Nilo Movement (SLNM), handed to Iloilo Governor Niel Tupas III a letter addressed to Pres. Benigno Simeon Aquino III, called on President Aquino to be true to his campaign promise of reforms by mobilizing government personnel and resources to find the missing activists.

"It has been four years of agonizing, searching and waiting for any news about them. Will they ever find justice?" Anaño's wife Rosemarie told the Inquirer on Tuesday.

The protesters released balloons bearing a streamers calling for government action.

Dantinalla and Anaño remained missing after their vehicle was waylaid and they were abducted by unidentified armed men on April 12, 2007, in Barangay Cabatuanan in Oton, Iloilo. Dantinalla was the spokesperson in Panay of Gabriela, a group of former political detainees, while Anaño was the regional chair of the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan.

Their companion, human rights worker Jose Efy Gonzales, was shot and wounded but was left behind by the abductors.

Military groups have accused the military of being behind the abduction but this has been denied repeatedly by military officials.

Dantinalla, one of the most prominent political detainees in Western Visayas during the Marcos dictatorship, was among the martial law victims entitled to P1,000 each from the Marcos estate.

Coat-and-tie news vendor longs for family

By Dolly T. Mallari Jr.
Inquirer Southern Luzon

LUCENA CITY—Newspaper vendor Carlos Antolin's now-bruised knee ailed his story briefly as it's the front page of the business sec. Monday has brought him to quest, adoration and mercy—unexpectedly.

Deep inside him, however, is the hope that his story could lead to a reunion with his wife, Lizzie Mendiz, and two children, Marlon, 22, and Ann Christie, 20.

"I hope they have read my story. I have been praying and dreaming for so long that we could become one family again," said Antolin during an interview during the lull of the Maharlika Highway here yesterday while he was on his way to deliver newspapers in his customers.

He said he misses his family so much and would wish dearly hard even if he remains poor and newspaper selling is his sole source of income.

"I want them to return," he added.

In an earlier interview, the newspaper vendor said his wife left him several years ago and brought with her Ann's two children when he was still working as a security guard assigned to different places in Southern Tagalog.

He did not elaborate on the cause of the separation.

"My last information was that my family now lives somewhere in Cavite. I hope that someday we will be united again," he said.

He was surprised when I saw my story and photo in the front page of the business. I was the butt of jokes of my fellow newsboys. I was not expecting that my life as a newspaper vendor would merit so much attention," he said (the business).

He said he sold many copies of the business on Monday because of his story. "Even regular readers of other newspapers also bought business copies as souvenirs," he said with a laugh.

He considered Lucena capital of a local government and private offices, which he regularly supplies with newspapers on weekdays, grabbed copies of the business in his hand.

"They were all happy," Antolin said.

Lawyer Vic Joyas, the donor of the black coat that Antolin wore in the business photo that landed on page one, immediately offered to help reunite Antolin delivered his city's copy of the newspaper.

"He was standing out as I gave him one of my old coats for protection. I even asked that he would look better in a coat and tie," he said.

Antolin's story and photo in the business website showing him aboard a rickety bicycle but dressed up like a businessman in coat and tie have been posted in several Facebook pages of his admirers.

He vowed to continue selling newspapers as long as his health would allow him.

"Even when I'm now all alone, I want to prove to myself that I still have something worthwhile to contribute to the economy, only—by selling newspapers."

HERO vendor Carlos Antolin, in his usual attire of coat and tie, delivers the business in one of his customers in Lucena City.

Dats, Camacho assured of nat'l chess titles

ATENEO stalwarts Akron John Dats and Grandee Chandino Camacho assured themselves of the boys' and girls' Under-10 titles, respectively, in the 2012 National Age group chess championships at the Santino Rosers Sports and Civic Complex in Legaspi. Dats downed GI Roque in the fifth round on Monday and Rodney Palomingo the next round yesterday for a perfect 5.0 points. The same feat posted by Camacho, who bested Rosemarie Maligaya, with only nine moves to go.

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SPORTS

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SUZANNE Rivera (right) of SSC goes for the kill against DVU's Irish Algarap and Princess Pida.

SWU stuns SSC; Adamson comes to grief

By Cedrik F. Tupas

A COUPLE of firsts transpired in the Shakey's V-League yesterday—one an amazing upset, the other a controversial loss by forfeiture.

Cebu-based Southwestern University pulled off a first-ever five-set victory over last-ranked and -before- Jhun powerhouse San Sebastian.

Almost lost in the din of Southwestern's stunning upset was Adamson's debut by forfeiture in Perpetual Help's sixth set, marking the first time in the league that such incident has happened.

The Falcons prevailed, 20-25, 25-22, 25-19, but league commissioner Tony Boy Liao had already declared the Lady Jaws the winner after Adamson coach Dolor Pasin sent in an ineligible player in Ryza Guevarra in the second set.

The Lady Cobras overwhelmed the Lady Stags' passer and produced a superb attacking game late in the fourth set en route to a 16-26, 25-23, 25-22, 25-20 victory that Thai Cookhouse of Tomorrow/Air the PSBA Flying V Arena in San Juan.

Ellia Cataldo Wenzel joined 20 points, 14 of Ellis, while Gemilia Rhenda Dondonadd contributed 17 as the Lady Cobras improved to 2-3, after dropping their first match against Lyceum.

Playing their first game of the season, the Lady Stags looked rusty despite the presence of former national team standout Cherry Mantonguay and Jazmine Flores.

"We saw San Sebastian's weakness in their floor defense," said SWU coach Jordan Pura. "They did not know where we were going to put the ball."

Pura added: "We're happy that the fans in Metro Manila are appreciating the provincial team's performances."

Perpetual found itself as the unlikely leader in Group B with a 3-0 record, while Adamson fell to 1-3.

The ruward actually had no inkling that Perpetual had already won as the match reached the third set.

Liao said Adamson exceeded the number of guest players only three by sending in Guevarra. The player was not part of the Falcons' lineup in the DAAP.

Adamson already had two guest players in former volleyball stars Michelle Laborte and Nerlen Bautista. A special provision in the league allows three guest players in the squad, provided they are all students.

Pasin said the league should have at least informed them of the infraction when the lineups of the schools were submitted.

"The rule was not clarified," said Pasin, who has insisted that Lady Falcons is ours. It's League owners, including last season's record conference.

Two KO matches today

Kings battle E. Painters, Aces duel Express for semis slots

By Jane Navarro

IT'S DOWN to this one last quarterfinal playdate for the four teams hoping to advance in the PBA Commissioner's Cup.

Alaska faces 4th/5th in a 5 p.m. opener at the Araneta Coliseum, while Barangay Ginebra and Talo or Rain square off in the second match of the day with the winners booking semifinal tickets opposite squads that made the last four outright.

The Express looked their best of three series with the Aces following a 94-84 victory Sunday while the Painters shot down the Kings in this, 113-97, in a best-of-three affair.

"It's been a struggle for us in this series," said Alaska coach Tim Cone, whose Aces snatched the series opener, 91-86. "We've had a hard time finding our rhythm and at times we seemed confused offensively.

"But we see some signs that we're finding our way out of our funk and we think we'll be fine for Game 3."

Gil Williams, who averaged 17 points and 10.5 rebounds in the first two games, baked in the real on both occasions, hearing LA Tenorio, Jeo De Veyra and Cyrus Baguio to shake it out with the Express as crunch time.

"I'm starting to believe we're good in do-or-die situations. Maybe we can pull it off an upset," said Aces coach Boong Fuentes, whose Express swept their last four games in the eliminations to reach the quarterfinals.

An snake for the Aces and the Express in a semifinal duel with top seed Talk 'N Text while the Global Citia national team, the second automatic semifinal qualifier, awaits the winner between the Kings and the Elasto Painters.

The semifinals will be a best-of-five affair.

Import Hassan Adams has struggled against the shifty Ginebra defense, forcing Rain or Shine coach Yeng Guiao to note the most out of a lord crew that includes Gabe Norwood, Larry Rodriguez, Greg Slaughter, Rodney Brondo and Ogie Arobio.

"It will be very hard to retain their import (Sean Brumfield) has the worst thing is stopping their guards," said Guiao.

Brumfield has been worn out all along but will need guards Mark Caguioa, Ronald Tubid and Willie Miller to finish the job.

Caguioa and Tubid combined for 11 points last time out after putting together 30 points and seven three-point shots in the opener.

Meanwhile, the league's board of governors yesterday approved the request of Select Giba coach Koji Tanemura to release four PBA players to the national team.

Tanemura picked Talk 'N Text's Jimmy Alapag and Ildefo Williams, Meralco's Asi Taulava and Air21's Dondon Hontiveros to strengthen the team to the 18th Asia Championship in Wuhan, China, on Sept. 11 to 23.

COACHES from both sides expect today's Alaska-Rain 5 p.m. knockout game to be more physical than Game 2.

Riviera's Abdon, Wang pace PH Am

By Mayang B. Castillo

ISLAND, CAVITE—Club ace 28-ft Abdon and Hong Jeong Sun carded tough three-over 74s yesterday to share the first-round lead in the 2012 Philippine Amateur Open golf championship at The Riviera's Langer course here.

Abdon, who squeezed in five rounds here over the past month to get ready for the event, and Wang, the Korean expatriate who competes mostly single-blog, joined a select cheat of five Gamblingers who had a 71.

Blustery winds made life truly miserable for the field, including limited defending champion Clyde Mondilla and Ian Arbole, as well as crack foreign entries like Singapore's Gregory Foo and Jeremy Ng.

Ng, a member of the champion Singapore team in the 2007 Palmo Cup, managed an 81, while Foo signed for an 82 in the event sponsored by Sheridan Home and SOC Land and backed by sportswear Outside Inspired, Australia's Great Shape, Callaway and Odyssey Golf.

Abdon opened with a double bogey-6 on No. 10 before righting his game to score his par and a solitary birdie on the 18th for rounds of 37-37.

Wang, already the winner of last January's DFB Amateurs at Carabbang and other events

KOREAN expatriate Wang Jeong-Sun has a 1-up on the 18th tee.

across the province of former national team standout Cherry Mantonguay and Jazmine Flores.

"We saw San Sebastian's weakness in their floor defense," said SWU coach Jordan Pura. "They did not know where we were going to put the ball."

Pura added: "We're happy that the fans in Metro Manila are appreciating the provincial team's performances."

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"The rule was not clarified," said Pasin, who has insisted that Lady Falcons is ours. It's League owners, including last season's record conference.

Dalay, Echavez strike Prisaa gold mine

CAMARANGA CITY—Jaerren Dalay of Calabanan and Lorenlale Echavez of Central Visayas won seven golds each to emerge as the most formidable athletes of the Prisaa Collegiate National Championships at the Joaquin Enrique Memorial Sports Complex.

At the end of swimming events yesterday, Dalay and Echavez each had five individual and two relay golds in copping most-outstanding honors in the men's and women's division.

A bred and top-rank sophomore at La Salle-Zobel, Dalay unraveled the men's 400-m free (4:40.01), 200 individual medley (2:17.21) and 4x200 free relay. He added a bronze to his haul after the Region 4-A bet placed third in the 400 IM relay.

Echavez matched Dalay's gold haul by anchoring Central Visayas to a come-from-behind victory in the women's 4x200 women's Freestyle relay.

Trailing Region 1-A's anchor Cherilyn Asuelo by 15 meters, Echavez blasted off the blocks, steadily gained distance, and eventually overtook her rival in the final 50-meter turn as Central Visayas won with plenty to spare (9:08.19.2). The Caraballoan contacts settled for the silver (9:18.12.86).

Echavez, representing University of Isis Cauba, earlier topped the 400 free (5:02) and did Dalay one better with a silver in 4x100 freestyle relay on top of breaking meet/nat'l meet records in the 50, 100, 200, 400 and 800 free events.

She was also a major factor in Central Visayas' win in the new mixed medley in the 4x100 and 4x200 freestyle relay.

Closest will be part of the Philippine swimming contingent, led by former Ilos, Nikki Cramming, that will see action at the Arafura Games in Darwin, Australia, next month.

Sharing the spotlight with Phoebe Vanyar was Jeremy Dwight Evangelista of Ilos Occidental, who had six gold-specs as they captured three individual crowns and were part of three relay victories.

Tigers test new-look Bulldogs; Lions eye rebound

By Jasmine W. Payo

COACH FRED Jumawan said there's more to Economy of Santo Tomas' second-then just the one that fueled the Tigers' surprise win over La Salle in the 2011 Fil-Oil Flying V Season Preseason Premiere Cup.

The Tigers, who triumphed over nine-injured gunners Jose Tang, three for back-to-back victory against the crowded Universities at 4 p.m. today at the NSSB Flying V Arena in San Anto.

"I think we're more competitive this year," said Jumawan, whose Tigers finished semi-fourteen in the final UAAP season. "We just have to show I hope we'll continue on improving."

San Beda, meanwhile, hopes to take Ateneo to a victory when the Lions clash with the Arellano Chiefs at 2:15 p.m.

The Lions, who completed a perfect season in their NCAA title campaign last year, lost to CSAP champion Arellano, 79-67, in the opener but Saturday despite a sensational debut by Alabanza, a Filipino rookie big man who paced the Lions with 20 points, 13 rebounds, two steals and two blocks.

Letran and Perlas Agamidis College also start their campaigns in the premier seasonal tournament at 12:30 p.m.

A pair of junior matches open the five-game fall featuring the Philippine under-12 youth team and National University at 9 a.m. and Letran and San Sebastian at 11:45 a.m.

The Tigers led Ateneo Fortunes, Mon Abiang and rookie Kevin Brown running in time 79-75 deposed of the Green Archers last Saturday.

But the Bulldogs are expected to pose a challenge with national youth standout Troy Rosario, Sydel Dingpen and Carlos Salinguen among the promising recruits.

Tickets for the tournament—presented by Filipino Real Estate and Eastwood with cooperation FROL Flying V Center's Cafe, BEO, Chevron, Boni, Mobile and backed by Total Blaze, Gray, TMS Mop Agencies Inc., Cobra Energy Drink, Sun Master's Tuna—are available at SM Tickets at 470-2222 and at the venue gates.

EAST WARS

Heat fry Hawks, nail No. 2 seed

ATLANTA—LeBron James scored 31 points as Miami forked up second spot in the Eastern Conference with a 98-90 win over the Atlanta Hawks, who usually rallied from a 26-point deficit while going with their backup in the fourth quarter Monday night.

Miami played in shorts all the way looking to clinch second place behind Chicago in the East. Shortly after beating the Hawks, the Heat got the score they wanted. Third-place Boston lost at Philadelphia, 90-84.

The Hawks went with a makeshift lineup with the fifth seeding already locked up.

Atlanta leveled the game at 90 in the closing minutes, but Miami outscored the Hawks 10-2 the rest of the way with James Jones making two huge buys—including one that turned into a three-point play—to help seal the leaping back to Atlanta.

In Salinas Mills, Daniel Gibson scored 27 points, including a five-point play late in the third quarter, as the Cleveland Cavaliers won a lotty game against the Detroit Pistons, 110-101, where two players were ejected after a skirmish.

Ryan Hollins and the Pistons' Charlie Villanueva became entangled with 5:47 left in the game, and appeared to push each other as the fans. Both were ejected, and Villanueva had to be restrained as he headed off.

Later, Villanueva came out of the Pistons' locker room and squared toward Cleveland's locker room, but was stopped by police on a loading dock.

The Cavaliers went on a 14-3 run spanning the end of the third quarter and start of the fourth. It started with Gibson's assisted trip down the court. He made a three-pointer and added free free throw—one for a personal foul by Richard Hamilton on the shot, and another for a technical foul that Hamilton received for disputing the call.

DWYANE Wade of the Miami Heat scores on a layup off Atlanta Hawks center Zaza Pachulia. AFP

Sharks aim for baseball 'three-peat'

By Jasmine W. Payo

BASEBALL PHILIPPINES brings the action to the province for the first time as Series 8 tips off with the Manila Sharks going for a record third straight championship starting this weekend.

Nelan Bernardino, executive director of league supreme Community Sports Inc., said the tournament aims to reach here with the popular baseball province.

"We're going to the baseball hotbeds in Luzon," Bernardino said in the PSA Forum yesterday in Manila's QS diorama in Manila.

The season's games include baseball league will kicked to Lilio (April 17) and Lipa City (April 30 and May 1) in Batangas; Subic, Zambales (May 14) and Manila in Cabanatuan, Laguna (May 15).

The Sharks—who boast two of the country's best pitchers in Claude Lalumiere and Jun Jun Robles—kick off their quest this Saturday against the Taguig Pirates at 1 p.m. at the Rizal Memorial Baseball Complex.

The Cebu Dolphins, Subang Tigers and the returning Davao-guru Unlikers round up the action field of the tournament featuring a double-round robin format.

(AFP)

Lining knocks Django off lofty perch

By Cordell P. Tupas

THE PHILIPPINES' Arnaiza "Nelza" Lining will surprised vanquished Francisco "Django" Barrientos in the No. 1 pool player in the world when the World Pool Billiards Association releases its new rankings.

The non-sanctioned Monday night by WPBA president Lan Anderson, who said that Lining collected enough points to surpass Barrientos in the rankings after reaching the semifinals of the Philippine Open Pool Championships.

Barrientos, the reigning World 9-ball champion, skipped the one-cushion event, along with former buddy Efren "Bata" Reyes, who is also sponsored by Patch Payot.

Barrientos remained in second, followed by another Filipino in Dennis Orcollo, who reached the last 16 of the Philippine Open.

It marks the first time that the 47-year-old Lining, a native of Oriental Mindoro, made it to the top of the rankings.

"I'm happy to finally get the top ranking," said Lining, who has been bothered by injuries in his left arm and the back the past 20 years. "It would have been better if I won the Philippine Open."

Thereafter Hohmann logged the crown and the $10,000 winner's check at the expense of compatriot Rolf Jospert, 11-10, Monday night.

Jospert had earlier eliminated Lining in the semifinals, 11-8.

Lining collected significant ranking points with a preliminary campaign last year that included a second-place finish in the China Open.

RMS needs 'safety stamp'

THE 3,700,576,000, integrity of Rizal Memorial Stadium's grandstand only needs the safety stamp of the Department of Public Works and Highways for it to become the venue of the Philippine football team's next home game.

"If [it] is structurally sound, we will go to Rizal Memorial," Philippine Football Federation president Mariano Araneta said this weekend last night. Araneta added that the stadium scheduled on July 5 when they meet Sri Lanka in the return leg of their 2014 FIFA World Cup qualifiers 3rd round clash.

Cordell P. Tupas

D-League: Road Warriors zap Wizards

By Jasmine W. Payo

CLIFFORD HODGE used Jaypee Belencion's corner to 30,000's shoot as the Road Warriors slipped past the PC Gilmore Wizards, 88-87, yesterday night in the solo Group A lead in the PBA D-League Foundation Cup.

Hodge completed the game-winning three-point play with 3.9 seconds left, minutes after Belencion's drive to a key stretch that got the Road Warriors their first win from a three-day slight addition to the main game at the JCSGO Gym in Cubao.

Belencion, who dropped in 16 points, 11 of which came in the second half, also had the final shot, though, after trailing by as many as 13 in the second half.

The Wizards, who dropped to fourth with a 1-1 slate after winning the game four into Pablo's jumper fell short in the buzzer.

The Cobrahorses climbed to a share of second at 2-1 while the Dragons dipped to 2-2 in Group B.

FOA Cobrahorses' Alex Hotrock (left) tries to prevent the hotline rookie pressure from Hyundai's Antonio Comm.

SPORTSWATCH

Trofacir Pasay cocktest April 15

MOTHER cattle call of workhorses is expected to compete in the Trofacir I-Coin Derby this Friday at the Pasay City Cockpit.

Popular gamefowl breeders Pinal Trofacir of the Bulacan Cockers Alkanse (SCA) and lawyer Ben Arany of Pandapan have picked horses to single-buy specimens.

Official entries must be submitted on Thursday from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. by requests, (0918) 1141 or (02) 6732 and look for Quiche or Sandie.

Meanwhile, the LBB Big Farm I-Coin Derby and Friday of Bonanza owner produced Bat'ol champion Jay-ok "Rebellion United Bonan, Mayor Jhon Pangalinan and P. Pinal.

UE's Formilan wins jade gold

PRECIOUS JANE "PJ" Formilan of the University of the East captured the gold medal in the 49-kilogram category of the Centennial Girl Le Guile Jade Championship yesterday.

Formilan, a first-day entrant last winter and former medalist was flung Evangelista in her second, last victory Sarah of La Salle and Bernale Pinkerd Mapua for the gold.

IT'S ANOTHER thumbs-up performance for Superbikes king Mario Bonaño.

Buncio dominates Superbikes field

GEYSERLAND CHAMPION Marco Buncio of Suzuki made it clear that he is not only here a tough rider Mashing but was to solidify straight rounds by taking the last-half leg of the 2011 Bridgestone Philippine Superbikes Championship at the Batangas Racing Circuit in Nasugbu, Batangas, last weekend.

The rider, though, the 21 years-old Suzuki captured the Superbikes Open title on board a different bike.

Buncio struggled getting a handle on his new Suzuki that he acquired just days before the event. Except for his gaining and exhaust settings, the bike was still unscathed and Buncio could only cast little out of it in yielding the pole to Dada Bautista.

However, Buncio resolved up to it and swept the pre-final and final races.

Posting the fastest lap time of 1:40.020 he scooped another single victory in 11 minutes and 30.599 seconds, almost a minute ahead of runner-up Mercado, the fastest Cosme Lobaldi and Alva Ordonez.

Busted Rosario topped the ARL Invitational duo over Lobaldi behind player John Paul Jose, while Dennis Agra won the 500 Novice class over John Paul Jose. Jhon Jeffrey Magallones and Rommel Rosario.

Actor Robinson managed his class crew in the 400cc Expert field, seizing four crowns in an event that is best for managing his personal playground.

The other races are slated May 14 to 15 at the Clark International Speedway in Clark Field, Pampanga.

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LET'S PLAY

Aplus METRO
Editor Abelardo S. Lifumday

Number coding suspended starting on April 19

By Miko Morales

TEMPORARY will be no number coding starting Tuesday next week in anticipation of the huge volume of commuters and motorists leaving for their provinces for the Holy Week break.

In a statement issued yesterday, Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) Chair Francis Tolentino announced the lifting of the number coding scheme starting on April 19 to let people leave the metropolis earlier.

NUMBER SEE

Task force scores FPIC cleanup plan

'Remediation program has no definite goal'

By Miko Morales

SUFFICIENT in form but not in substance?

Although it may be as thick as one-half of a phone directory, the remediation plan submitted by the Liquid-owned First Philippine Industrial Corp. (FPIC) for Barangay Bangkal lacks specifics, according to a Makati City official.

"The remediation plan has no definite goal," city engineer Nelson Morales commented in the letter he sent to FPIC officer in charge Anthony Madrazo last month.

In another letter, the document "does not specify the volume of contaminants such as free fuel phase, contaminated groundwater and soil which should be removed or treated within a given period of time."

He reminded the company and CLEMARE—the US-based firm FPIC hired to carry out the plan—that the city government had given them "sufficient time to prepare a more complete and comprehensive plan."

FPIC is the owner and operator of the country's largest commercial pipeline which transports fuel products from Batangas province to the Pandacan oil depot in Manila. Five holes in a portion of the pipeline located near Barangay Bangkal in Makati City were found last year to be the source of the oil that had been seeping into the basement of the 22-storey West Tower condominium since July. This led to the closure of the building and the declaration of the area as a "danger zone" due to the possibility of an explosion occurring.

Under pressure from the city government and the Department of Energy, which issued in November a writ of Kalikasan ordering the company to shut down the pipeline, FPIC came up with a plan for the cleanup of the oil that had leaked into the West Tower basement and the surrounding area.

In his letter to FPIC, Morales noted that the remediation plan did not specify pumping rates and a target date for CEDMRIS' completion of the cleanup. He also observed that the FPIC contractor had yet to obtain enough soil samples "to know the true nature of soil contamination."

He said the city government also wanted to know how CEDMRIE plans to contain vapor that could leak into the air due to air sparging—a process in which air is pumped into the

TASK FORCE A13

Another case filed vs PNP-HPG cops

By Marlon Ramos

A 30ish who claimed to have fallen victim to the same operations of the Philippine National Police's Highway Patrol Group (PNP-HPG) who reportedly demanded money from DYIQ 990AM anchor Arnell Ignacio yesterday filed formal charges against them.

Accompanied by his lawyer, Francis Abraham cleared up at the office of PNP-HPG director Chief Supt. Leonardo Espina to submit his sworn affidavit accusing Police Officers 3 Levy Llagas and Neil Pons of extorting P30,000 from him.

Upon reading newspaper reports about Ignacio's experience, Abraham said he suspected that the policemen who had asked money from him were the same PNP-HPG members who took P50,000 cash from the TV and radio personality.

"I felt it was my responsibility as a citizen to do this," Abraham told reporters at Camp Crame. "It's a good thing Arnell cultivated to share what happened to him."

Along with PO2 Joel Landa, Llagas and Pons were accused by Ignacio of extortion after they accosted him on C5 Road in Pasig City on March 26 for driving what they claimed was a smuggled Porsche car.

The PNP-HPG subsequently filed a case for robbery/extortion against the policemen with the San Juan City Prosecutor's Office.

Espina ordered the PNP-HPG's legal division to immediately resolve Abraham's complaint and file the necessary criminal and administrative cases against Pons and Llagas.

"I will not let these errant PNP-HPG operatives ruin the integrity of our entire ... institution," Espina said.

"Let this be a message to the public that they should not be afraid in file cases against erring policemen. I assure you that this case will be treated properly," he added.

Abraham, a photographer for advertising agencies, said he was having breakfast with his clients in a fastfood restaurant at a gas station on C5 Road in Taguig City on Jan. 10 when Pons approached him and asked him about his parked BMW motorcycle.

When he admitted that he had yet to renew the registration of his expensive motorcycle, he said Pons demanded P30,000 from him.

"I actually asked them to let me finish my photo shoot first before they bring my motorcycle to Camp Crame. But they did not listen to my pleas," he lamented.

During a brief negotiation, Abraham said the policemen allowed him to leave the area with his motorcycle in exchange for P30,000 in cash.

Number coding ...

From page A11

in the week.

"We're also expecting that public transport terminals will have their hands full accommodating thousands of commuters. By allowing the public to freely use their vehicles, that will help lessen the strain on them," he said.

The number coding scheme will again be in place on April 25.

At the same time, Tolentino advised motorists to avoid tides ...where a lot of bus terminals are located—and say alternate routes like the Shaslaray Lanes, which was relocated to Intramuros.

Motorists from the northern parts of Metro Manila going to the south may take Mcarthur Highway, then turn on Santolan Road, on C-5/Lawe and R-10, then make another turn on A. Bonifacio Avenue, then Rizal Boulevard toward their destination.

Travelers going to and leaving the North Luzon Expressway can use various access points like the Mindanao Avenue ramp, instead of going all the way to Balintawak.

For vehicles bound for Pasay, motorists may take Sauar Road, Dr. A. Santos Avenue), then straight to C-5 toward their destination. Motorists coming from traveling on the South Superhighway may exit at South Luzon then use Diosdp Rizal.

Motorists going to Tagaytay can take either the Sta. Rosa or Governor's exits.

With Don Joseph Dejesus

METROBRIEFS

Hostage-taker's brother pleads not guilty

THE BROTHER of slain hostage-taker Rolando Mendoza yesterday told the court that he could not be held liable for the last year's hostage-taking at the Quirino Grandstand in Rizal Park which left eight Hong Kong tourists dead. SPO2 Gregorio Mendoza pleaded not guilty to the charge of illegal possession of firearms during his arraignment at the Manila Regional Trial Court Branch 13. According to him, he was authorized to carry a gun since "it was issued to [him] by the Philippine National Police and [he has] had it for 10 years." Gregorio was charged last year for entering a cordoned area in civilian clothes with his service firearm allegedly against police orders. He also caused a scene believed to have enraged the disgruntled brother of Rolando, the mastermi... Jayson T. Zamel

14 bettors pick 5 numbers out of winning combo

NOBODY HAS bettors won one number away from matching the nearly P132 million 6/55 Grand Lotto jackpot, the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) said on Monday night. The jackpot breached the P100 million mark when no bettor submitted the winning combination on Saturday's 9:30 PM draw. Some P36 million worth of lotto tickets were sold to bettors aspiring to daily the one-in-29 million odds of picking the winning combination. But 14 bettors came close to striking the pot, picking five of the 06-08-15-24-32-35 combination. Abbie Morales

1-year-old boy killed in QC fire

A ONE-YEAR-OLD boy died in a fire which hit a densely populated area in Quezon City the other day, Bureau Investigator FO2 Jovie Gadiane of the Quezon City Fire Department said this today but on Monday afternoon at Purok 1 in Barangay Culiat. Gadiane added that the charred remains of Joven Dulamini was recovered inside one of the burned houses. The boy had been left by his mother in the care of a neighbor while she went out on an errand. "When she came back after a few minutes, the whole house was already burning," he said. The fire broke out around 4:20 p.m. and was placed under control at 5:30 p.m. Some 600 families lost their homes while the damage to property was placed at around P5 million. He said that the cause of the fire has not to be established. Mayor Herbert Bautista said the city government would shoulder the boy's funeral expenses. Nancy C. Carvajal and John M. Aycaho

2 offices in QC burglarized

EXCEPT for the imprint of the sole of a shoe left on a chair near a window, the burglars who broke into an office in Quezon City during the weekend did not leave any other clues. Chief Insp. Rodelio Morales of the Quezon City Police District's criminal investigation and detection section said one window had been left closed Wilder Corp. and Promak Industries located at 16 Kalayaan St. in Barangay Valencia. He added that there were no signs of forced entry but that the window had the shoe print. According to the police, based on the statement of Island Wide manager Oliver Lee, the robbers took at least P600,000 and $20,000 in cash plus computer parts. Promak, on the other hand, reported that P25,000 was stolen from a vault which was forced open. The police added that the robbery was reported by two employees who discovered the break-in when they came to work on Monday and found all the drawers open and the offices in disarray. The police said they have not ruled out the possibility of the robbery being an inside job. Nancy C. Carvajal

DID YOU KNOW

TOMÁS DE Pinpin de Tavera, born in Manila on April 15, 1857, was known for his contributions in the field of medicine. His pioneering work in sources, the "Medicinal Plants of the Philippines," was translated into English and published by an English firm in London. Conferred an honorary doctor's degree in law by the University of the Philippines in 1913, he was also one of the first three Filipinos who became members of the Philippine Commission during the American occupation.

Zobel Ebookids Inquirer Research

Task force ...

From page A11

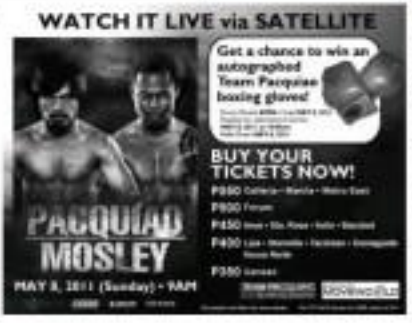
ground to relocate communities.

Also among the task force's concerns, Morales added, were the widening of certain ...nuisances that would be removed from the ground, the timetable for the cleanup and how long it would take for the rail and groundmover ... to Barangay Barghol to return to normal.

Without specific quantitative goals in the immediate plan, the city government "could not properly monitor" the cleanup's progress, he said.

Morales told PIA that the plan should include "clear performance of rehabilitation goals" which he categorized as immediate, medium and long terms.

He warned that further delays in the rehabilitation effort may lead to legal action being taken against PNR in addition to fines and sanctions.



The WORLD

Editor: Lawrence M. Bueno

HISTORIC FLIGHT Emirates-bold superstar at first commercial Mach flight in an Airbus commemorates the 50th anniversary of the first manned space flight on April 12. AFP

Libyan rebels reject AU's ceasefire proposal

BENGHAZI—Libyan rebels, backed forcefully by European leaders, rejected a ceasefire proposal by African mediators on Monday because it did not insist that Moammar Gadhafi relinquish power.

A day after an announcement that the Libyan leader had accepted the truce, a doctor in rebel-held Misrata said Gadhafi's forces battered that western city and its Mediterranean port with artillery fire that killed six people.

"We're the biggest liar in the history of Libya," said Abd Yaseer, 42, who joined more than 1,000 flag-waving protesters in the eastern rebel stronghold of Benghazi as the African Union (AU) delegation arrived.

"All the people in Libya agree on this: Gadhafi and all his sons must leave Libya so we can have democracy," Yaseer said, echoing the opposition of other demonstrators to any deal making it safe Gadhafi remains in power.

The rebels' leadership council agreed.

"Talked Gadhafi and his sons must leave immediately if he wants to save himself. If not, the people are coming for him," said Mustafa Abdul-Jalil, a former justice minister who split with Gadhafi and heads the Benghazi-based Transitional National Council.

Abdul-Jalil said the AU proposal did not respond to the aspirations of the Libyan people" and insisted only public talks between the two sides.

"The initiative (that) was presented today in essence has passed," he said. "We will not negotiate on the blood of our martyrs. We will die with honor or be victorious."

In their talks with the AU delegation, the rebels raised the issue of Gadhafi's reliance on foreign mercenaries from other African and Arab countries, particularly Algeria, said Abdul-Jalil, without elaborating.

The pressures in Benghazi and their bad little faith in the evolving AU mediation, most of them allies of Gadhafi. Three of the five African leaders who came preaching democracy for Libya visited power in coups.

South African President Jacob Zuma led the group, whose other key participants were the leaders of Mali, Mauritania, Republic of Congo and Uganda.

An Algerian member of the AU delegation said he'd now see his counterparts in the meeting with Gadhafi of the diplomats for his exit, but he refused to divulge details.

Italian Foreign Minister Franco Frattini strongly backed the rebel demand for Gadhafi's immediate departure and said he doubted that the Libyan leader would have abided by the ceasefire after breaking more than one previous pledge to halt violence. The African Union weighs a suspension of three months of international isolation that could have prevented Gadhafi's forces from re-supplying the sandy-soaked rebel forces.

Nevertheless, the secretary general of Nato, which took over control of the international air operations from the UK, welcomed any efforts to resolve the conflict. He said it had become clear it would not be decided on the battlefield.

"There can be no solely military solution to the crisis in Libya," Anders Fogh Rasmussen said.

Gadhafi's forces, meanwhile, shelled Misrata despite the AU delegation's statement that Gadhafi had accepted their ceasefire plan at a meeting late Sunday in Tripoli. A doctor who lives in the city said the shelling began overnight and continued intermittently throughout the day on Monday. AP

WORLDBRIEFS

12 killed in Belarus rail bombing

MINSK—The death toll rose to 12 on Tuesday after a blast shook twelve in each of Belarus' nine through a metro station in the Belarus capital, Minsk, President Alexander Lukashenko's headquarters. "As of 2:30 local time, the number of dead reached 12 people, six of whom have been identified," the country's KGB security service said in a statement, cited by the state Belta news agency. A total of 149 people were treated in hospital, 20 of whom are in a serious condition, and 10 of whom have no signs of previous wounds, the KGB statement said. Lukashenko had earlier put the death toll at 11 in the latest in Belarus's thousand-year history, the most serious attack in the country's post-Soviet history. AFP

Yemen president ready to transfer power

SANAA—Embattled Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh could announce he was ready for a "peaceful" and constitutional transfer of power a day after fatal clashes erupted in cities across the country, Protesters have rejected the proposal made by foreign ministers of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), saying they want to the fall of Saleh's twelve regime altogether and for the Yemeni strongman to stand trial. "In compliance with statements I've made over a period... Mr. Excellency, the president has no reservation against transfer-ring power peacefully and smoothly within the framework of the constitution," his office said in a statement. But it fell short of saying clearly whether Saleh, who has been in power since 1978, accepted a direct GCC proposal calling on him to transfer a peaceful transference of power to his deputy, Abdrabuh Mansur Hadi. AFP

Egypt blogger gets 3 years for criticizing army

CAIRO—An Egyptian military tribunal convicted a blogger of insulting the army and sentenced him to three years in prison, further testing activists' fears that the army is against greater freedom of expression and political reform. The military court on Sunday convicted the defendant, a 25-year-old Abdel Karim Samad, who carried signs to rallies and on his website, on his blog and accused it of not living loyal to most ex-President Hosni Mubarak. "The sentence was pronounced in the presence of his lawyers, according to a statement by lawyer Dalia Samad eighth-grade. It was the first time a blogger by Egypt's military tribunal, who took charge of the country after Mubarak was ousted by antigovernment protests on Feb. 11 after an 18 day popular uprising. AP

Islamic veil ban in France starts

PARIS—The world's first ban on Islamic face veils took effect in France, meaning that women may not wear them outside in the Channel Islands.

Two veiled women were hauled off from a Paris protest within hours of the new ban on Monday. Three unauthorized demonstrations in the country capital, facing Notre Dame Cathedral, was met with both the symbolism of France's medieval history and its modern spirit of defiance.

While many are excoriating Islamophobia in the new ban, President Nicolas Sarkozy's government defended it as consistent part of France's citizenry against its equality and tolerance. Police promised that it will be hard to enforce.

"The law is very clear. Hiding your face in public places is cause for imposing sanctions," Interior Minister Claude Guéant said on Monday at an EU meeting in Luxembourg. He said he defends "two fundamental principles: revolutions and the principle of equality between men and women." AP

Ivory Coast standoff ends; strongman finally captured

ABIDJAN—The elected president of that West African nation has told "the dawn of a new era of hope" when a bloody, four-month standoff ended with the capture of his rival, the longtime strongman who ran the war but refused to give up power.

Video of former President Laurent Gbagbo being led in a room in a white undershirt was broadcast on Ivorian state television as the news broke. Alassane Ouattara, his longtime opponent who won the vote but refused to give up power.

Video of former President Laurent Gbagbo being led in a room in a white undershirt was broadcast on Ivorian state television as the news broke. Alassane Ouattara, his longtime opponent who won the vote but refused to give up power.

More than 1,000 civilians died in the violence that erupted in the country's disputed November presidential election, which pitted Gbagbo against Ouattara. Gbagbo refused to step down after losing a first 20 elections to concede Alassane Ouattara.

More than one million civilians fled their homes and untold numbers were killed in the power struggle between the two rivals that threatened to reignite a civil war in the world's largest cocoa producers.Gbagbo's arrest, in his bunker from around-the-clock gunfire and heavy weapons during the standoff.

Video more than four months of post-election crisis, marked by so many human lives lost, we are finally at the dawn of a new era of hope," Ouattara said in an address to the nation on radio and television.

Ouattara's cut short speech, in which he urged his rivals to be delivered to the International Criminal Court in The Hague, calling for an Ivorian investigation into the violence by the country's own judicial system.

Gbagbo, who led the ruling with 51 percent, has also vowed to respect democratic institutions, but many Ivorians don't trust the former army officers and many ousted when it came to a final campaign rally he said that if he wins the presidency, "media directors will no longer set the news agenda, the people will." AP

Peru's extremist bets in poll runoff

LIMA—Peru found itself on Monday facing the very scenario many Peruvians dreaded: The two presidential candidates whose democratic credentials are most questioned—the daughter of jailed former President Alberto Fujimori and leftist military man Ollanta Humala—are headed for a runoff election.

The double-header with the first round both have close relatives in jail for human rights violations which resulted in multiple deaths and are heightened by concerns that the issue has been barely raised by either candidate.

Ghosh's recent speech conveyed, Keiko Fujimori immediately sought to assure Peruvians after Sunday's first-round vote that she had no intention of extending the years-in corrupt, authoritarian regime of her disgraced father.

She promised "absolute respect for democracy, guarantees, human rights and the rule of law" after finishing second with 23 percent of the vote. Supporters soon dismissed her suit with chants of "Ollanta! Ollanta! Ollanta!" her father's nickname.

Humala, who led the ruling with 31 percent, has also vowed to respect democratic institutions, but many Peruvians don't trust the former army officers and many ousted when it came to a final campaign rally he said that if he wins the presidency, "media directors will no longer set the news agenda, the people will." AP

MAIL ATTACHMENT

Circa 1988

Hi Ma & Pa,

Attached here a pic of your apo.
Kamukha nuje po siya, Ma! Sana makita

Love,
Carla

Things have changed since then.
Isn't it great how life has become extraordinary?
Let's celebrate it on April 24.

SMART

Like Raul B. Marcelo ▲ Assistant Editor Corrie S. Mallorca

BUSINESS

Gov't urged to probe PLDT-Digitel deal

INDICATORS

PESO-DOLLAR RATE
April 12, 2011
43.180

STOCK MARKET
Apr 12, 2011
28.51

Stocks continue to weaken

LOCAL STOCKS held further on profit-taking yesterday, breaking down the key support level of 4,200.

The main share Philippine Stock Exchange index shed 58.01 points or 1.37 percent to finish at 4,199.40 as all sectors traded in the red. The index thus ended in negative territory for the second day in the row, as expected by many analysts, as investors reconvened quiet to observe the run-up to this past two weeks.

Philippine National Bank, the second most actively traded stock, defied Tuesday's downtrend, rising 5 centavos to close at P67.30.

"The market has been in wait for developments on the finalization of the long-announced merger with stock bank Allied Banking Corp.," said analyst Gabriela Jo , a dealer at Secured Capital Equities Inc.

The most actively traded stocks that succumbed to profit-taking yesterday were ABS, Metrobank, ICTSI, Bonifacio Gro, PLDT, Metro Pacific Investments, DMCI, Ayala Corp., SM Investments, San Miguel Corp., JEC, Cebu Air, BPI, Megaworld, Lopez Hol, Rockwell, University of Asia and Manila Electric.

"The anticipated tax liability ushering the Tax deadline Friday and next week's Lenten break may have also pushed investors to seek cover," Lallegay said.

Aside from PBB, Filinvest Land also defied the downturn yesterday.

Value turnover was thin at P4.28 billion. Despite the sluggish performance for the day, foreign investors were still net buying, made in the form of P128 million.

By sector, the industrial counter was the worst hallowed, declining 1 percent.

There were only 28 stocks that advanced compared to 90 that fell and 32 that remained unchanged. **Doris C. Dumlao**

Globe says merger may impede competition

By Paolo G. Montecillo

AYALA-LED Globe Telecom Inc. has called for a probe of the impending P74.1-billion takeover by Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. of competitor Digital Telecommunications Philippines Inc. that could turn the competitive telecommunications industry into a virtual monopoly.

Globe, which will end up being a competitor with a market share twice its size, said the government should assess the potential impact of the takeover on the industry and ensure that the rights of consumers would be protected.

"There has been a lot of discussion on what the impact of the merger is in the long-term. That will have to be discussed by the government, by politicians and by the President," Globe president and CEO Ernest Cu said.

"It is always a good idea to have a regulator that can recognize when competition is being impeded," he told reporters at a briefing following the company's annual shareholders' meeting.

Once the takeover is completed, PLDT will secure more than two-thirds of industry revenues and have a subscriber base of seven to over 10 mobile users in the Philippines.

Having a single player dominating half of the country's telecom market, allowing it to dictate pricing, would be bad for consumers, Cu said.

Taking steps such as ordering PLDT to let go of some of its frequency allocations—after the takeover is completed—would be "in the effort of preventing long-term competition in the Philippines," Cu added.

"If you follow the pattern of the mergers and look at positions in other more developed countries, there is the possibility of disincentive to keep business competitiveness," he pointed out.

In other countries like the United States, whenever two telecom providers merge, Cu said regulators usually took back some of the frequencies that have been used by the combined entities.

"There have been discussions about divestiture of frequency allocations in some markets and even vehicle businesses," he said.

Cu said Globe was prepared to compete with a much bigger market leader after PLDT takes over the Digitel unit from Cellular mobile brand.

"In the short term, things won't change. Globe has always competed with a much bigger incumbent industry leader," he said, adding that the company was sure poised for growth following a decline in profits in 2010.

Last year, the company posted a 22-percent drop in earnings to P5.7 billion.

"Globe will continue to focus on its own strategy," Cu said, noting that the company would improve the quality of its customer is keep Globe subscribers loyal to the network and maintain market share.

While it is not the PLDT Digitel deal would result in a more "rational" market where unsustainable price pressures push profit margins down, Cu said: "We don't see one business buying competition will be steadier."

P-Noy appoints ex-SBMA chief to BCDA

SUBIC BAY FREEPORT—Former Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority chair Feliciano Payumo has been appointed by President Aquino as the new chair of the Bases Conversion and Development Authority, the government agency tasked with converting former American military bases into economic zones.

Payumo, a member of the administration Liberal Party and a former Bataan representative, took his oath yesterday.

He also dispelled reports that he was being appointed to head the MMDA for a second time. "I've been there for seven years. No, I was appointed to the BCDA. We've been hearing rumors about it for awhile, but it did not receive confirmation until now," he said.

Under Republic Act 7227 (Bases Conversion and Development Act of 1992), the BCDA is mandated to convert former US military bases and Metro Manila military camps into productive civilian economic growth centers that will generate business opportunities, jobs and economic activities.

Chief among the BCDA's mandates is the "balanced conversion of the Clark and Subic military reservations and their extensions—Camp John Hay (Baguio City), Wallace Air Station (La Union) and O'Donnell Transportation Station (Tarlac)—into productive civilian use," the BCDA website said.

Payumo, who was appointed SBMA chair in 1998 by then President Estrada, will replace **PASCUAL**

Chinese firms to join PPP bidding

By Razzel W. Dumlao

A MEMBER of Chinese firms have shown interest in vying for the contract to operate and maintain two Philippine light rail lines, according to a team led by state economic manager's visiting China.

"We want to encourage Chinese investors to put their money in the Philippines and invest in our infrastructure projects," Socioeconomic Planning Secretary Cayetano said of the ongoing four-day road show.

"We want to deliver the message that the Aquino administration is committed to transparent negotiations with those public bidding projects have been called in businessmen overseas," Pulmano said in a statement.

Pilot line are Public Works Secretary Rogelio L. Singson, Trade Secretary Gregory L. Domingo, Transportation Undersecretary Rabon G. Reinoso Jr., Budget Secretary Florencio Abad, Angelo Santos and Filipinas Government Armando M. Tinsingco Jr., BSP Governor Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Governor Amando M. Tetangco Jr., BSP Governor Roberto C. Yuno, executive director of the PPP (Public-Private Partnership) Center.

This is the second leg of a series of PPP road show that started in Japan last December, where officials assure "that income have been lessened from previous Chinese dealings tainted with corruption allegations."

The China road show comes the last days of Beijing and Shanghai and will end on Thursday.

According to BSP-BOI Fernandez, the China leg was similar to the Japan kickoff with economic managers expected to meet with investors interested in PPP projects.

Fernandez said a number of Chinese investors have shown interest in bidding for the first five PPP projects announced last month, specifically the contracts for the operation and maintenance of the Light Rail Transit Line 1 and Edsa-Nad Transit Line 3.

The other three projects are the Ninoy Aquino International Airport Expressway Phase II, North Luzon Expressway-South Luzon Expressway Connector and the Daang Hari-Sta Rosa Link.

According to the PPP Center, privatization of the operations and maintenance of MRT has an estimated cost of Ph1.3 billion while that of LRT is estimated at P7.7 billion.

Stretching from Tarlac to Pangasinan, the Subic-Clark-Tarlac Expressway is the first toll road project to be awarded by the Aquino administration. The project is expected to be completed by 2015.

PUNONGBAYAN

Philippine exports rise at slowest pace in 15 months

PHILIPPINE EXPORTS rose at the slowest pace in 15 months on declining electronics sales and less further disruption from Japan's resurgent manufacturing.

Shipments abroad expanded 0.2 percent in February from a year earlier to $5.66 billion, after rising a revised 11.7 percent in January, the National Statistics Office said yesterday. That's down from the median forecast of 13.1 percent in a Bloomberg News survey of 11 economists.

Overseas sales of locally made items such as Toyo Industrials Inc. semiconductors may weaken as coming months after the disaster in Japan, the Philippines' biggest export electronics last year. Shipments abroad account for about a third of the nation's gross domestic product and helped spur the fastest economic expansion in more than three decades in 2010.

"We expect some softness in the second quarter but it's unlikely to last beyond the second half of the year," Radhika Rao, an economist at Forecast Pte in Singapore, said before the release. "Demand from Western countries, and increased intra-regional trade will help pick up the slack in the short run."

The Philippines raised its benchmark interest rate last month for the first time since August 2008, joining neighbors from Thailand to India at boosting borrowing costs as oil trades at more than $100 a barrel.

The peso's 2.7-percent rise against the dollar in the past nine trade the appreciation in the currencies of neighboring **PHILIPPINE D.I.**

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PLDT CheckOut is a web-based POS System that allows businesses to have an automated process of accepting and recording sales transactions, tally their monitor inventory levels and gives them real-time access to sales analytics.

Normally, new POS systems entail big investments, but with PLDT CheckOut this is no longer a problem. It's simple, easy and won't be a burden on the budget. It's a downloadable software which you can install in your existing laptops, PCs or POS terminals. It has very low hardware requirements so there's no need to invest on new equipment. In fact, all you need is an internet-ready computer.

Since it's web-based, you get instant access to all your information through an online portal giving you the power to check your data anytime, anywhere.

It's a 2-way software. The front-end system is installed in your stores, counters and so on. It allows transactions to be entered easily enabling you to transact sales faster. It's compatible with POS machines, barcode scanners, POS printers, cash drawers and the like so there's no need to upgrade your current system.

The back-end system is used by the business owners. It's a browser based portal that can be accessed anytime and anywhere. It gives SMEs real time information on sales, reconciles sales on a daily basis, customizes sales reports for sales analysis on a weekly, daily or hourly basis. It also lets SMEs look up their inventory easily, generates inventory movement reports and much more.

PLDT CheckOut brings SMEs a world of convenience. Now, the hours wasted manually processing sales and inventory can be done at the click of a mouse. Sales and inventory processes are now error-free and businessmen are worry-free. Money and time are saved and businessmen can focus on growing their business.

More than this, consumer servicing will also change dramatically with faster transactions and with a better knowledge of who the consumers are. PLDT CheckOut can definitely help businessmen serve their customers better.

The face of business is changing towards the future and for the good. PLDT CheckOut is just the first step.

To find out more about PLDT CheckOut, please call 101-888 or visit www.pldtsme-nation.com.ph

Net FDI inflow up 22%

Investors expect PH to post decent growth in '11

By Michelle V. Rivera

THE FLOW of foreign direct investments into the country rose to January from a year ago given the general optimism on the Philippine economy.

Monetary officials said settlement of foreign investors on the Philippines improved in January amid a consensus that the country is likely to sustain a decent growth rate this year.

The net inflow of FDIs in January reached $307 million, up 22 percent from $175 million in the same period last year.

Officials said this eluded hopes that the trend of rising FDIs would be sustained throughout the year.

"This [growth in FDI net inflow] reflected buoyant prospects for the global economy this year. The strong economic performance in 2010, combined with countervailing [outside outlook in 2011, helped draw FDI inflows into the country," the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas said in a statement.

Statistics that benchmark the most from the investment inflows were manufacturing, real estate, banking and business process outsourcing, the BSP said.

Foreign investments in January came mostly from the United States, Japan, Singapore, and Hong Kong.

Government economic managers are confident that the Philippines would be able to post another decent growth rate this year after registering last year a 7.3-percent expansion, which was the highest pace in more than three decades.

Last year, the net inflow of FDIs reached only $1.71 billion, falling by nearly 12 percent from $1.96 billion in the previous year.

Economists said the contraction reflected that foreign investors were not comfortable placing funds for long-term investments in the country.

Portfolio investments, however, surged in the same year. These are short-term funds usually invested in stocks and bonds.

Economic managers said they expected FDIs to be boosted this year by the economy's ability to maintain a respectable growth rate and by the government's Public-Private Partnership (PPP) program. Under the PPP program, private enterprises are invited to invest in public infrastructure projects.

In its 2011 budget, the government assumed a 5- to 6-percent economic growth this year, although it aims for a 7-percent expansion.

The target is anchored on assumptions of economists that the Philippines needs a growth of at least 7 percent every year over the medium-term to be able to reduce poverty incidence.

Will I ever be a millionaire?

MONEY MATTERS
Efren U. Cruz

QUESTION: How difficult is it to become a millionaire?

Answer. The bit song "I Wannabe a Billionaire" by Travis McCoy featuring Bruno Mars could have only inflamed the universal desire to become rich. And because of inflation, the benchmark now is not just a million but a billion. But aiming to be a billionaire is just downright greedy. Perhaps it would be better to just want to be a millionaire.

Regardless, between being a billionaire and a millionaire, we all want one thing—to be able to buy all the things we never had.

Here's the good news. You probably are already a millionaire. You just have to open your eyes.

Have you ever paused by a mansion and thought that a millionaire must be living inside? Being a millionaire is so much exciting mainly indeed as a million or more as having able to own that million.

Consider this: A person earning P18,000 a month for 13 months a year with his pay increasing by 5 percent a year and perhaps by 20 percent in certain years due to either career growth, promotion or transfers to a better job. This person will also earn a retirement pay at the minimum amount provided by law by the age of 60, by conservative estimates. Having earnings of this person, it came up with the astounding figure of P11 million!

Have pause for a moment to digest ... Done?

At any point in the life of a person, he or she will have potential income to earn that, when totaled, can amount to millions. In essence, people can already be multimillionaires by way of the earning power of their income. Just on the lending business know this only too well. And in much the same way as the owner of the mansion will perform maintenance on his property so that its value, or increase or even increase, so too can a person increase the sum of this potential income income by maintaining his or her earning assets.

Which particular earning assets are we talking about? Why the body and mind of course, two among those that comprise the most important assets of any individual. Keeping these earning assets well-oiled can take the form of a healthy diet, exercise, saying no to vices, acquiring new and enhancing old skills, earning a higher degree (e.g. masters), and many others. Such maintenance will eventually spur the doors on investment opportunities in financial securities and/or a business that will all the more enhance the value of earning assets.

But let's not forget that while the body and mind provide the multimillion peso earning assets, it is the soul, the third component of the most important assets of any individual, that give the other two meaning. Hunt? By nurturing the body and mind to share wealth with others. To paraphrase a saying, wealth is like butter, it needs to be spread.

So the next time you look in the mirror, say to yourself that this person is actually a millionaire.

Now, is it really that simple to maintain one multimillion peso asset? Actually, no. It is easier said than done. As we all know, nothing worth having ever comes easy. And this is where the danger lies. In our desire to enjoy things now, we lose patience and short-circuit the process by overworking our earning assets and/or mortgaging them beyond reasonable levels. Mismanagement to simply doctors on the window. And the end results are a rending hardship, the untimely sickness and illnesses, past due loans, wasted investments, even stress-related at work and even family discord.

So open your eyes, you may already be millionaires. If not, just be patient and pace your life. You will still be able to buy all of the things you never had, or at least many of them. And whatever you have, share it. Remember that you're amazing just the way you are.

Thanks Tisha and Jessica.

Efren U. Cruz is a registered financial planner with the RP-Philippines. He is the author of the bestselling books, "Pesos Wiz The Complete Pinoy Guide to Personal Finance" and "Pesos Wiz The Complete Pinoy Guide to Investments & Financial Planning." He is chair and CEO of Personal Finance Advisers Philippines Corp. Questions about this article may be e-mailed to efren@pesowiz.ph.

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Philippine exports rise ...

Previous

Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia, prodding fear of a bubble against global peer pressure while aiding export competitiveness.

The peso fell 0.2 percent to 43.161 a dollar in morning trade yesterday.

The central bank says raise borrowing costs again this year because of inflation risks from higher commodity prices, including oil. Bangko Sentral Governor Amando Tetangco said yesterday.

Electronics sales, which make up more than half of Philippine exports, dropped 2.7 percent to $2.612 billion in February from a year earlier the NSO report showed. Philippine gross domestic product expanded 7.3 percent last year, the fastest pace since 1976. — Bloomberg

Defying gravity

TYCOON LUCIO Tan's beating term, Philippine National Bank, traded in the stock market yesterday unscathed by the profit-taking that blindsided the insiders. Could there be a basis to our belief in 10.8-percent surge to P67.50 a share, which is now nearing the 52-week high of P74.50 even when the market has pranked us November?

The number who always with two possible "angles." The first is a speculative play on the potential price of a share swap deal with Allied Bank, which still seem be taken over by PNB. Insiders are now talking about the share-swap deal being raised for at least P80 a share to reach the value of the bank's book value of P90.8 each. Recall that in 2008 when the PNB-Allied Bank merger was first agreed upon, PNB shares were supposed to be issued at only P55 a share. But PNB has become more "valuable" since then.

Asked about this, PNB president Eugene Acevedo said he sees "no amount of anything exciting except the execution of our strategy." But he said PNB indeed was "still very undervalued." Asked about the rumored revitalization of the share-swap deal at P80 a share, Acevedo said: "More than know something, we don't." He said it was too early to talk about such deal as regulatory approvals would have to be obtained first.

The second "angle" is that a new foreign strategic investor (a Chinese bank) may buy into the bank. This theory coincided with the Equitrex current trip to China. In whether the Equitrex will bring in new Chinese money into PNB remains a theory. **Boni C. Ilarina**

Top condo seller

REMY by 26-hd IM Development Corp.—arguably the biggest threat to the leading property developers to date—sold the most number of residential condo units in Metro Manila in 2010, according to property consultant Colliers International Philippines. IMDC grabbed the top-slot for the second straight year.

"IMDC has maintained its sales momentum, having sold more than 9,000 units. Of a condominium units in 2010, nearly double its 4,681 year 2009 sales of 4,700 units. Given that figure, the company has a 22-percent market share of the approximately 40,000 residential condominium units sold last year. IMDC's strategy of affordable pricing coupled with flexible payment terms continues to attract market acceptance," the Colliers report said.

With this result, IMDC said it firmly intends to provide more quality homes in prime locations at affordable prices, which are the cornerstone of its five brands: SM Residences (the brand represented by actress Anne Curtis) and M Place (which targets the younger families), as represented by

BIZ BUZZ
By the staff

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Biz Buzz
By the staff

Battle for free

INDUSTRY SEO-CEO tells out free free digital TV news Kapuso's free GMA News TV that started last February).

It's still a toss up between ABC and Television as to which will soon be made available even as non-cable subscribers. ABS-CBN chief Gaston Villanueva is not sure yet which will be "free," but noted it was "part of our plan when we do our DTV."

And Brendan part of Esperanza is on for negotiations among ABS-CBN plans to invest heavily in sports content via Studio23 programming. **Doris C. Bautista**

Ayala

NOTICE OF ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the annual meeting of stockholders of AYALA CORPORATION will be held at the Grand Ballroom of the InterContinental Manila, Ayala Center, Makati City, on Monday, April 18, 2011 at 9:00 o'clock in the morning with the following

AGENDA

1. Determination of Quorum
2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting
3. Annual Report
4. Ratification of All Acts and Resolutions of the Board of Directors and Management Adopted During the Preceding Year including Resolution No. B-02-11 Approving the Increase in the Compensation of Directors
5. Declaration of 20% Stock Dividend on Common Shares and Increase in the Authorized Capital Stock from Php5 billion to Php 6.2 billion
6. Amendment of Article Seventh of the Articles of Incorporation to Reflect Capital Increase and the Creation of 40 million New Series of Preferred "I" Shares with Par Value of Php100 Per Share
7. Election of Directors (including the Independent Directors)
8. Election of Auditors and Fixing of their Remuneration
9. Consideration of Such Other Business as May Properly Come Before the Meeting
10. Adjournment

Only stockholders of record at the close of business on February 25, 2011 are entitled to notice of, and to vote at, this meeting.

Makati City, March 11, 2011

MERCEDITA S. NOLLEDO
Corporate Secretary

ABS-CBN net profit surges 87%

Record-high P3.2B due to political ads

By Doris C. Dumlao

ABS-CBN BROADCASTING Corp. expanded its net profit last year by 87 percent to a record-high P3.23B due to huge election-related advertising complemented by regular advertising income and steady consumer sales.

The target for 2011 is to at least match last year's bounty, pushing revenues in the absence of political or election advertising, which contributed P3 billion in revenues in 2010 (a presidential election year).

"We'll have a good shot at it," ABS-CBN chief finance officer Rebecca Yalahan said in a briefing yesterday. "We can't totally replace P3 billion but we expect consumer sales to give the boost."

The multimedia giant has committed P5 billion for capital spending this year against P2.7 billion in actual spending last year. This year's budget includes P1.4 billion for the broadband expansion of SkyCable and P450 million for the planned rollout of its digital television service that will eventually replace analog systems currently in use.

ABS-CBN's cash flow has yet to surpass its earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA) reached 39.6 billion, up by about a third from a year ago. This yielded an EBITDA margin of 27 percent compared with 26 percent a year ago.

Consolidated revenues of P32.2 billion from advertising and consumer sales in 2010 increased by P7.2 billion or 29 percent year-on-year, the multimedia giant disclosed yesterday. It announced average price increase of 15 percent (last took effect in February 2010 likewise boosted revenue growth.

Negotiations were ongoing for the implementation of the area consolidation, Yalahan said.

SUN POWERS A CEBUANA ENTREPRENEUR's SUCCESS STORY

ATR KimEng group income up 77% in 2010

ATR KIMENG Financial Corp. jacked up its consolidated net profit last year by 77 percent on robust insurance, capital markets, asset management and real estate businesses.

ATRKEI Financial ended 2010 with a consolidated net income attributable to shareholders of P301.1 million, compared to P172.2 million the previous year, the company disclosed to the Philippine Stock Exchange yesterday.

Consolidated revenues grew 24 percent to P2.7 billion.

"It was a banner year once again for us in 2010 as our businesses capitalized on the country's economic growth for the year," said ATRKEI Financial president Manuel Tordesillas, citing consistent revenue growth across all segments.

The company's insurance group through operating units Asian Alliance Life and General Assurance Corp. and Asian Life Financial Assurance Corp. recorded revenues of P1.7 billion, up 34 percent from a year ago. Net income rose 32 percent to P189 million.

The total revenues of the insurance group accounted for 63 percent of consolidated revenues and 46 percent of consolidated net income in 2010.

Wholly-owned ATR KimEng Capital Partners Inc. acted as dealers-lead managers on the two successful initial public offerings completed for online operator Cebu Air Inc. and mining firm Nickel Asia Corp.

"This gives ATR KimEng a distinction of having led all of the four Philippine IPOs successfully completed from 2008 to 2010," the company said.

Fitch Ratings said ATRKEI Securities, a unit of ATRKE Capital, reported a 50-percent jump in commission revenues to P540.9 million despite a virtual turnover at the PSE, bringing consolidated commissions to P615.4 million, up 40 percent from the prior year. Doris C. Dumlao

NOTICE OF ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of CEBU PROPERTY VENTURES & DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION will be held on FRIDAY, APRIL 29, 2011 at 3:00 o'clock in the afternoon at Ballrooms 1 and 2 of the City Sports Club Cebu, Cebu City, with the following

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Determination of Quorum
3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Annual Stockholders' Meeting
4. Annual Report
5. Ratification of All Acts and Resolutions of the Board of Directors and Management
6. Election of Directors (including Independent Directors)
7. Election of Auditors and Approval of Remuneration
8. Other Business
9. Adjournment

Only stockholders of record at the close of business on MARCH 4, 2011 shall be entitled to notice of, and to vote at, this meeting.

Makati City, February 16, 2011.

SHEILA MARIE U. TAN
Corporate Secretary

P-Noy appoints . . .

From page B1

BCDA Chair Rhoda Bautista.

Zambales Rep. Milagros Magsaysay nominated Peyman's appointment, saying he was competent to serve the post.

"He is qualified for the position as he has the experience and knowledge as (one being the chair and administrator of the SBMA," she said.

Quincy Perez, Subic Bay Freeport Chamber of Commerce (SBFCC) president, said his group supported the decision of Mr. Aquino to appoint Peyman to SCDA chair.

"[SCDA] has proven to be successful in developing economically feasible areas. We hope that through the leadership of Peyman, it can now focus on further developments of Bonanza areas into investment ready areas," Perez said. Robert Garcia-go, Inquirer Central Luzon

T-bond yield drops as inflation worries ease

Rate on 7-year debt down to 6.334% at auction

By Rainier M. Dumlao

THE YIELD on the seven-year Treasury bond declined slightly yesterday after banks submitted lower bids, taking comfort from the easing inflation pressure in the country.

At the Bureau of the Treasury, the seven-year bond was awarded at an average of 6.334 percent, 11.6 basis points lower than the 6.45 percent in their deals in the secondary market.

National Treasurer Roberto R. Tan said the result showed that the market is "settling down," as it has become more predictable because of the outlook on the perception of an easing trend of price increases for the rest of the year.

He said inflation, which remained at 4.3 percent year-on-year in March, was still within government expectations of between 4 percent and 5 percent.

Bureau's average was 2.9 basis points higher than the 6.225 percent for the most recent seven-year issue that was awarded last month.

Investors tendered a total of P25.97 billion or almost triple the volume on offer.

The BTr raised P9 billion as planned from yesterday's issue.

Bureau's offer was a reissue of 10-year bonds that were first issued in Jun. 11, 2008, which means that the bonds have six years and 10 months until maturity.

Tan pointed out that a good volume of bidders yesterday was made possible by the high level of liquidity in the domestic market.

He attributed the level of liquidity to the high savings rate, both from individuals and firms, as well as foreign currency inflows mainly due to the continually rising inflow of remittances from overseas Filipinos.

"The domestic market is awash with cash, and there is a lot of money looking for liquid investments," Tan said.

The BTr placed maturing government securities this week at a total of P9.3 billion, including P6.3 billion in T-bonds and P3 billion in T-bills.

The BTr plans to issue a total of P1.07 billion in debt notes in the second quarter.

The government expects to debt stock to breach P5-trillion mark or P5.338 billion by end of this year, even as it draws efforts to make its financial obligations more manageable.

A Philstocking document showed, however, that the projected level of total outstanding debt for 2011 will settle at 53 percent of gross domestic product amid government expenditures of continued growth.

According to state economic managers, the debt to GDP ratio this year will be lower than the 55.4 percent posted in 2010, 57.3 percent in 2009 and 57 percent in 2008.

Yesterday's decline in the yield of the seven-year T-bond were not matched, however, by bonds of short- or longer tenors were affected by short-term worries on the price of crude oil.

The yield on the 6.25 percent bond due January 2014 climbed 25 basis points, or 0.25 percentage point, to close at 6 percent in Manila, according to Philippine Dealing System data.

Consumer prices rose 4.3 percent from a year earlier in each of the last two months, the biggest gains since May 2010. Inflation this year may average close to the top end of the central bank's target range of 3 percent to 5 percent, according to monetary authorities. The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas raised its benchmark interest by a quarter of a percentage point to 4.25 percent on March 24. The last increase since August 2008. With a report from Bloomberg

Construction of undersea cable begins

By Paolo G. Montecillo

THE CONSTRUCTION of a submarine cable owned by a group of telecommunications companies in the Asia-Pacific region started this month, and will be completed in four years, the consortium's lead partner Global Telecom said on Tuesday.

Its subsidiary Asia Japan Cable (UK) cable system, worth about $800 million, will significantly increase the amount of Internet bandwidth to deliver better broadband services to consumers across the region.

Globe will shoulder $60 million of the total cost.

First announced in December 2009, the cable was initially planned to be 8,300 kilometers in length, linking five countries and territories.

JGC's length has since been lengthened to 9,000 kilometers, extendable to span 10,700 kilometers, linking eight countries and territories while supporting an initial design capacity of over 5 terabits per second.

Globe's partners in the SAC consortium include Bharti International Gateway Singapore Pte Limited, China Mobile, China Telecommunications Corporation, Telekom Malaysia Berhad International (Labuan) Limited, Tata Communications (India) Limited, Bharti Airtel Limited, Singapore Telecommunications, PT Telekomunikasi Indonesia Internasional, Telekomunikasi Brunei and TOT Public.

"With the strength of the investors in the project, the SAC will bring more available bandwidth to Asia to support future applications and next-generation technologies," Globe said in a statement.

The SAC consortium signed an agreement with TE SubCom and NEC Corp. to supply and install the system based on their detailed engineering and system design, engineering and corporate aspects of an existing and pre-budget project completion.

Globe said its investment in the SAC system is part of efforts to deliver higher quality services to broadband and business clients. Belatedly, Globe said it was keen on supporting the country's growing business process outsourcing (BPO) sector.

"There is continued explosive growth in broadband and Internet use both in our service and business segments," Globe business group head Ulf Bruhn said. "The SAC system will help facilitate broadband penetration and new Internet-enabled markets."

Once completed, the SAC will be one high-capacity submarine cable system in the world.

EDC cuts yen exposure

By Ariz A. Ibarra

ENERGY DEVELOPMENT Corp., the country's largest geothermal producer, said it has prepaid 8.1 billion yen for work to help prevent losses in the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

In a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange, EDC said the prepayment has brought its total yen-denominated loans to only 54.6 billion yen, representing 0.02 percent of the company's total loans.

Debt denominated in loans now stands at 45.62 percent of EDC's total peso portfolio, while peso loans account for the bulk at 53.7 percent, the company added.

The yen-denominated obligations were among the so-called legacy loans which the EDC had inherited from the days when the government was still saved by state-run Philippine National Oil Co. (PNOC). It was used to fund the investment and working capital requirements of then PNOC-EDC's geothing projects, in the aftermath of the 1997 Asian financial crisis.

EDC has since overhauled the currency mix of its loan portfolio to be less reliant on yen debts. The successful re-denomination of its debt stock to become predominantly peso-based made the company less vulnerable to currency volatility in the form of unrealized foreign exchange losses or gains.

EDC president and CEO Richard Tantoco earlier pointed out that the company's investors had singled out the predominance of yen-denominated debt as a major concern because of the company's vulnerability to foreign exchange losses.

Tantoco said this was among the reasons why EDC was planning to address since the Lopez group took over the firm in 2008.

Biz Buzz

Pinoy page B4

Bid golf farewell

SOME executives at PNOC Exploration Corp. may find themselves looking for another "partner" to keep themselves fit and relaxed as its chair and CEO Geordelino Lopez Jr. has already banned the playing of golf and tennis during office hours.

Lopez, who assumed office in October 2010, had also sought to put an end to the "necessary perks" of PNOC-EC, members said top managers, including company-paid memberships for golf, tennis and travel. Apparently, engaging such activities during office hours had already become a practice in the company for it to instill such an order.

Lopez, however, says some values acted how prevalent were these activities during the past administration and merely acted that his order was "in accordance with the instructions of President Aquino to remove the excessive privileges of government executives to cut the budgetary deficit." —Amy R. Remo

'Doctor C'

HERE'S one cue for the DR. There's this loan among wealthy people from Ayala Alabang to Robert Park about the person of this man in staying ailments. It seems "Doctor C" had a life-threatening accident in the past that nearly led to his position. But through "alternative" methods, he was able to cure himself and is now sharing his knowledge of alternative medicine to many people.

There have been stories about the things he was able to do for people, curing illnesses that medical doctors could not. However, there was also this recent case of a patient who reportedly went into a semi-invasion of the detox program that "Doctor C" put that person. The cause listed for a stay and the patient's relatives were warned that their kin would not survive.

That incident happened on the 40th day of the patient's program, but to get a discount from the expensive fee that "Doctor C" charges, that person had to pay the full amount up front. "Doctor C" charges a P40,000 fee for a 30-day session. That does not include the "medicines" the doctor prescribes, which of course only he produces.

The patient did not get a refund for what happened. To top it, after nearly dying from the incident, the doctor's clinic kept telling the patient to continue the remaining sessions.

The poor patient does not want to file charges and just wants to forget the whole incident, but that person can't even get a refund because the good doctor did not issue a receipt. —Margie Quimpo-Espino

Go business alone and a person of the flesh the evening before it comes out. Text 09.DIGBUSINESS to 4467 (P2.50 value).

CEBU HOLDINGS INC.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of CEBU HOLDINGS, INC. will be held on FRIDAY, APRIL 29, 2011 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning at Ballrooms 1 and 2 of the City Sports Club Cebu, Cebu City, with the following

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Determination of Quorum
3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting
4. Annual Report
5. Ratification of All Acts and Resolutions of the Board of Directors and Management
6. Election of Directors (including Independent Directors)
7. Election of External Auditors and Approval of Remuneration
8. Other Business
9. Adjournment

Only stockholders of record at the close of business on MARCH 4, 2011 shall be entitled to notice of, and to vote at, this meeting.

Makati City, February 18, 2011.

SHEILA MARIE U. TAN
Corporate Secretary

Globe sustains growth momentum with strong product offers

Exclusive in Davao: Globe Prepaid launches first-ever all-in-one offer

TV still king, but phones and Net widen market opportunities

By Dazlin L. Lucas

TELEVISION CONTINUES to be the most widely accessed platform for delivering news, entertainment and advertisements in the country, according to an interactional media monitoring firm.

But results of the latest Nielsen Media survey reveal that the status quo may be starting toward more decentralized delivery systems—the so-called "three screens," which open up opportunities for firms outside the television industry.

"TV continues to be the most dominant media platform in the Philippines, as 98 percent of active two-consumers aged 10 and up have access [to it]," said Nielsen Media managing director Jovial Gunitan.

Gunitan said, however, that digital screens...including those on mobile phones and computers, in addition to TVs—had become increasingly popular through the years.

He said mobile phone usage in the country stood at 83 per cent of the population, while Internet penetration had reached 36 percent as the end of 2010.

More importantly, the survey revealed that the number of Filipinos consuming all three media had increased significantly over the years, from only 13 percent of the national population in 2008 to 23 percent in 2010.

In the so-called Mega Manila area alone, about 5 million consumers watch TV, use their mobile phones and use the Internet—a situation that allows parties with limited access to expensive television airtime to reach the same number via mobile phones and the Internet.

"The future of media consumption may well be focused on multimedia usage among 'three-screen consumers,'" he said.

The survey showed that male Filipinos between...in terms of mobile members—to three-seven consumers was highest in Mega Manila with 1 million pairs of eyes looking at these media in any one time.

This was followed by Metro Manila, the entire Luzon, the entire Visayas, the entire Mindanao, and then the cities of Cebu and Davao taken separately.

The Class D market had the biggest share of three-screen consumers, accounting for 68 percent of the populations, followed by Class C2 with 26 percent. The survey also showed that 30 percent of them were aged 30 to 39, while another 24 percent were aged 20 to 29.

Gunitan said three-screen consumers also present an attractive target for advertisers given their lifestyle choices.

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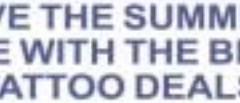

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Lenders keen on BatMan1

$1.3B needed to complete project

By Ariy R. Reyes

MULTILATERAL AGENCIES, including the World Bank, have expressed interest in providing funds for the $1.3-billion (about P55.5 billion) Batangas-Manila (BatMan 1) natural gas infrastructure project, which is expected to be completed off by the end of the year.

Energy Secretary Jose Rene D. Almendras said financing would be needed for the project, as it would entail investments of about $600 million for the construction of the 100-kilometer pipeline alone and another $700 million to $800 million for the "regasification" and the receiving terminal.

A power plant that would possibly be so-called anchor load for the pipeline would also have to be put up.

Despite the heavy capital outlay for the project, Almendras said there were already several foreign groups that had shown interest in forming a joint venture with the government-owned National Oil Co. for BatMan 1.

These prospective investors include a group that owns and operates a gas field in Australia, a Chinese, Japanese and even an Indian group, he said.

"The (BatMan 1 project) has to be via joint venture, PNOC will be involved in the pipeline project because it has the franchise for the pipeline," he said.

The Department of Energy, Almendras said, was just awaiting the proposed master plan for the natural gas industry, which is being drafted by the Japan International Cooperation Agency. He expects the plan to be submitted by September this year and only after this did the BatMan 1 project will be auctioned off.

As for the needed nuclear load, Almendras disclosed that the Department of Energy has another power plant in mind and the decommissioned 850-MW Sucat facility might be converted so there would run on natural gas that would pass through the BatMan 1 pipeline.

Even the proposed combined cycle power plant of Manila Electric Co. (Meralco) is likewise being eyed to help provide the anchor load for the pipeline.

Also, two other proposed power generation projects in Batangas, which is combined capacity of 800 MW will also be tapped.

Almendras said there should at least be 2,000 MW in gas-fired generation capacity to "justify the economics of building (the) gas line," considering the huge investment/gas development project in the country.

The energy chief stressed the need to put up the pipeline as this "can bring natural gas all the way to Iloilo. My dream is that all buses going Iloilo will be running on natural gas."

A number of local firms had expressed interest in the project. These include Aboitiz Equity, subsidiary Aboitiz and Holdings, headed by investors from Abu Dhabi and Italy, and conglomerate San Miguel Corp.

APC issuing debt notes to raise P5B

ABOITIZ POWER Corp. said it signed yesterday a notes facility agreement with several banks to raise P5 billion.

The disclosure to the Philippine stock exchange, APC identified eleven banks as Metrobank, Bank and Trust Co.-Trust Banking Group, which will serve as the notes facility agent, First Metro Investment Corp. (FMIC), the issue managers, and a consortium of banks and other financial institutions as note holders.

The peso-denominated fixed rate corporate notes will be issued by way of private placement to not more than 19 primarily institutional investors, according to APC.

Proceeds from the notes issuance will be used to refinance about P1.85 billion worth of corporate fixed notes issued in 2006, and for other general corporate purposes.

Stephen G. Paradies, SVP and chief financial officer of parent firm Aboitiz Equity Ventures, said in an earlier interview that this was just one of the planned fund-raising activities this year. Other plans include a plan aiming to raise P34 billion to P35 billion to fund two power projects over the next few years.

Paradies said the company would start arranging enrollment loans by its coal power projects in Iloilo and Davao, beginning the second half of this year.

The planned loan arrangements for the Iloilo power project may either be P17 billion; if the company would pursue a 300-megawatt coal facility or P34 billion, if it would push through with a plan to build a 600-MW power plant.

For the Davao project, APC was also looking at raising P17 billion for its proposed 300-MW coal-fired power plant. —Arlyn R. Reyes

'Open skies' policy backed

By Doris C. Dumlao

A GROUP of prominent Filipino economists has backed the Aquino administration's policy to implement an "open skies" policy involving the full use of the country's air lanes toward faster economic growth.

The Foundation for Economic Freedom (FEF) said in a statement that the issuance of Executive Order No. 219 liberalizing further the aviation industry would be a "monumental forward-looking economic breakthrough in the agenda of the Aquino government to ensure that the country is open for business."

FEF, an organization that seeks to expand economic freedom, has among its members the country's top economists, some of whom had served in the economic management teams of previous administrations. They include Cesar Virata, Bernardo Villegas, Felipe Medalla, Jaime Caruso, Ernest Leung, Raul Fabella, Romeo Bernardo, Calixto Chikiamco and Amando Tetangco.

EO 219 authorizes the Civil Aeronautics Board and the Philippine Air Lines to pursue more aggressively the international civil aviation policy." It gives essentially gateways for opportunity to be connected to international and local markets and bring tourists and investors directly to destinations such as Clark, Laoag, Cebu, Davao, Puerto Princesa and others.

Liberalizing civil aviation, according to the FEF, will increase cost efficiency and bring in more tourists and business travelers, opening job opportunities and boosting income growth, especially in the countryside.

"The benefits of tourism-related growth will include increased revenues for suppliers, hotels and restaurants, transportation companies and the like," the economists said.

FEF dismissed the objections of critics of the "open skies" policy stating that to expressly should not be defined by the access of local airlines to foreign markets, but should also cover the benefits that would accrue to the economy as a whole.

FEF said access to the Philippines should not be held hostage to the plaint squatters of local airlines. The overall interest of the country should prevail, it said.

Banks borrowed less from BSP in 1st quarter

By Michelle V. Ramos

LOANS BSCUBED by banks from the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas declined in the first quarter as the banking system enjoyed sufficient liquidity.

BSP officials said the banking sector remained awash in cash due to rising profitability and deposits from the public. This made them less dependent on income-oriented support from the central bank to maintain growth lending opportunities.

Loans are extended by the BSP to banks in need of liquidity to be able to continue lending.

According to data from the central bank, peso-denominated loans extended by the BSP in the first three months of the year reached P6.5 billion, falling by nearly 66 percent from P40.4 billion in the same period last year.

The decline was also attributed to the increase in interest rate charged by the BSP on such loans.

Last month, the interest rate on BSP liquidity loans was raised to 4.25 percent from the previous rate of 4 percent.

The increase was automatic, as the interest rates on discount loans are pegged to the overnight borrowing rate of the BSP. The overnight borrowing or lending rate, or the interest charged by the BSP for overnight loans to banks, was raised last month by 25 basis points to 4.25 percent.

The increase in interest rate was implemented to temper the rise in consumer prices. With higher interest rates, monetary officials believe demand for loans will be dampened. In turn, consumption will also be tempered since this is partly aided by loans.

The increase in interest rate came amid projections that inflation may accelerate this year from last year. Without an increase in interest rate, monetary officials admitted, inflation might exceed the official ceiling set by the government.

Inflation accelerated to an average of 4.1 percent in the first quarter, from 3.8 percent last year.

The government aims to keep the inflation rate within 4 to 5 percent.

STOCKMARKET *Quarterly*

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Bulls see light at end of the tunnel

By Doris C. Dumlao

IT WAS A rough start for local equities this year as global investors pulled funds out of emerging markets. Jitters over escalating inflation in emerging Asia prompted the rotation of funds back in the unsparkling West. And it did not help that the oil-rich Middle East South African (Mena) region was shaken by sociopolitical unrest that pushed global oil prices to more than $100 a barrel.

However, the wave of foreign selling that battered the market since last year ended by March. Even as the big earthquake that devastated Japan added another layer of uncertainty to the already wary global financial markets, foreign investors started to take a second look at emerging markets, including the Philippines. Investors also took comfort in the Aquino-formed ng Pilipinas' decision to raise its benchmark interest rates from all-time lows to curb rising inflation expectations.

The market also saw an unexpected light at the end of the tunnel when index heavyweight PLDT announced a P74-billion deal to acquire third-biggest telecom player Digitel. This relieved investors who considered telecom as an otherwise maturing industry that has been a drag in the market.

In the first three months, the main-share Philippine Stock Exchange Index lost 5.5 percent or 146 points to finish at 4,026.14. The market was "shortsighted" by P6.96 billion in net foreign selling, a reversal of the P9.97 billion in net foreign

BANKS B2-3

Banks, property lead Q2 stock picks

AS INTRACTIVE values from the volatile equities market has become more challenging given a number of external concerns, the business's Doris C. Dumlao asked five local equities experts what their top stock picks are for this second quarter.

The choices are more diverse compared to our previous quarterly surveys but bonding and property seem to be the most favored. Valuation and potential for growth are key drivers of investor interest as these counters, both of which had declined faster than the 3.5-percent index fall in the first quarter.

Inventory also seem to be drawn to selective power and mining/oil plays. There were also selective construction, gaming, consumer and air transport-related stock picks. *So for those who manage their own portfolios and would like to take an equity position in anticipation of stronger market recovery, these views may help.*

April Lynn Lee Tan

Head of research, COL Financial Group Inc. (COL)

● **Energy Development Corp. (EDC)**

"It focuses on renewable energy (100 percent of power generation portfolio), enabling the company to produce electricity at a low cost and making it a major beneficiary of rising oil and coal prices. Earnings are projected to grow by 11.4 percent to P15.1 billion in 2012, driven by the first full-year operations of the Bacman (Daron Mantra) plants and the full impact of the repricing of the Sual, Pagbilao and Bacman contracts. It has an attractive valuation, with its stock trading at a P/E ratio* of P-2x 2012 (earnings), below the regional average of 12.7x. P/E."

● **Metropolitan Bank and Trust Co. (MBT)**

"Given its size and access to low-cost deposits, MBT is one of the major beneficiaries of the renewed pick up in demand for loans brought about by the recovery of investment activities in the country. Its earnings per share are projected to grow by a compounded annual growth rate of 20 percent in the next two years, while return on equity will remain above its 2-year average of 15 percent. Its financial crisis peak of 13 percent, driven by the continuous growth of its asset base and the significant decline in provisions. It has an attractive valuation, with the stock trading at 1.5X price-to-book (P/BV)** for 2011, below the 1.6X and 2.0X multiples of BDO and BPI, despite similar levels of pre-provision profitability.

● **Ayala Land Inc. (ALI)**

"Based on its latest results, ALI appears well on its way to execute its aggressive five-year plan to double its earning from P5 billion in 2009 to P10 billion in 2014 and to raise return on equity to 10 percent. This will be achieved through higher residential sales, expanding office and shopping mall space for lease and improving margins through cost saving efforts. Its stock is trading at 26 percent discount to its net asset value."

Israel Cruz

President, ICC Securities Inc.; Director, PSE

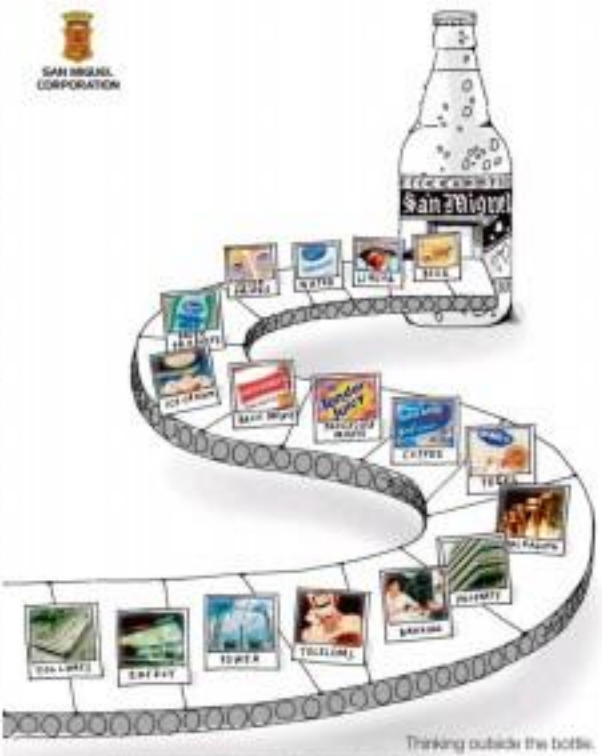
● **Metropolitan Bank and Trust Co. (MBT)**

"One of the best ways to participate in the growth of the Philippine economy is to invest in a leading blue-chip bank, like Metrobank, which has proven its stability and profitability over its different business cycles. It has significant investments in power generation (Cebu Energy and Panay Energy) and automotive industry (Isuzu/Phil).

"MBT is the highest capitalized bank in the country and can aggressively grow its loans business with its clean balance sheets. Its fine tuck in five-year earnings basis are projected to grow by 15 percent per year, and net income, by 16 percent a year.

"MBT is also the most undervalued universal bank with a P/E (price to earnings ratio) of 11x on 2011 earnings and a

BANKS B2-3



STOCK QUARTERLY

Stock	1st Qtr 2011 (Php/Shr)	1st Qtr 2010 (Php/Shr)	%Δ	Total Value (Php)	Total Value
A					
Abra Mining Company, Inc. A					
ABC Independence Telephone Inc. - ABC	10.00	10.00	0.00%		
Acoustic Development Bank, Inc.			0.00%		
Alaska Milk Corporation	28	30.00	-6.67%	57,000,750	1,597,020,900
Allied Banking Corporation	58	59.4	-2.32%	38,138,000	2,213,021,140
Alsons Consolidated Resources, Inc.	0.40	0.50	-20.00%	800,000	320,000
Altus San Nicolas Corporation	0.50	0.50	0.00%	1,000,000	500,000
Anglo Philippine Holdings Corporation	2.00	2.00	0.00%	4,000,000	8,000,000
Apex Mining Company, Inc.	0.50	0.50	0.00%	1,000,000	500,000
Asia Brewery, Inc.	30.00	30.00	0.00%	60,000,000	1,800,000,000
Asia Pacific Resources International Holdings Limited	0.50	0.50	0.00%	1,000,000	500,000
Asian Terminals, Inc.	0.50	0.50	0.00%	1,000,000	500,000
Atlas Consolidated Mining and Development Corporation	2.00	2.00	0.00%	4,000,000	8,000,000
Atlas Fertilizer Corporation	0.50	0.50	0.00%	1,000,000	500,000
Atlas Mining Corporation	0.50	0.50	0.00%	1,000,000	500,000
Atlas Resources Development

Equity-laced funds thrive amid volatile market

By Dixie Lopez
Contributor

EQUITY-BASED funds have been gaining traction in the Philippines as more Filipinos turn from savers into investors, while some investors opt out of directly held stocks in favor of mutual funds and unit investment trust funds.

And they haven't been disappointed.

Over the past three years, most UITFs and mutual funds that invested in equities have shown average yearend returns of more than 30 percent. That's despite the slump in the market at the height of the 2008 global financial crisis.

Whatever you bet in 2008 you more than made up in 2009," said Jose Cesar Mendoza, investment specialist for Sun Life Prosperity Dollar Fund.

First Metro's head of Learn Equity Fund Jeff Ng Tan said the fund's net asset value at the end of 2008 due to unfavorable market conditions spurred by the global crisis. As the market recovered, however, the value rose 53.1 percent at the end of 2009 and surged by 61.4 percent at the end of 2010.

"These are the things that people don't realize—that equities fund is not something you buy today and sell in a week. Equity fund is something you accumulate over time—you buy and then you keep on buying and before you know it, you have so much more than you put in," said Cunio, whose company manages about P3.5 billion in equity-based funds.

ATR Kim Eng Asset Management saw a similar trend for its ATR Kim Eng Equity Opportunity Fund, which invests in stocks of Philippine and other Asian companies. The fund rose about 61.5 percent in 2008 but went up by 42.6% percent in 2009 and 10.1 percent in 2010.

The fund's performance is closely linked to that of the stock market.

The 2008 results mirror that shook up Wall Street and brought down big firms like US investment bank Lehman Brothers, sparked investors to pull out their forex, leading to the poor performances of stocks in the country and elsewhere that year.

The succeeding two years saw the growth-stimulating decline in interest rates in the United States and other developed countries, which pushed yield-starved investors seeking better returns to turn to Asia and other emerging markets. As a result, stocks and other investment instruments in those markets went up.

UITFs showed a performance that is at par with that of mutual funds.

BDO's equity fund was up by 30.6 percent at end-2010, outperforming the Philippine Stock Exchange's main index, which was 17.6 percent higher at end-2009, the fund was up 61.1 percent, slightly lising better than the market, which was 61.5 percent. The peso before that, the fund slid 46.2 percent versus the market's fall of around 48.4 percent.

Market in consolidation

So far this year, most equity-based funds—or managed funds that invest heavily in stocks and unlisted funds that invest in the sale of equity and fixed-income securities—were showing negative returns as they reflected consolidation in the local stock market. The market index was down by about 3.5 percent in the first quarter, as many foreign funds pocketed gains given the stellar performance of local equities in the last two years. This also reflected the movement of some funds back to developed economies as they showed signs of recovery.

Still, that hasn't changed the optimistic outlook of many fund managers.

"Two things are still working for equities, I believe. One is the low interest rate environment and the stable economic and political environment," said Philip Hagedorn, PBCOM trading floor Management director for investments.

"People are so busy. Markets move everyday. It's so difficult to be a Warren Buffet who could do all his stock picking."

"There are many challenges along the way with regard to how the government executes the growth story they want to execute, but the overall growth narrative looks quite well," he added.

The markets are very volatile. Fund managers say they wouldn't be surprised to see corrections. Still, the market could trend upward, with the stock market index seen rising past the nearly 4,400 level pointed last year.

Mitigating fall

One good thing about the equity-based funds is that investment managers have the knack to mitigate any fall to the value of their investments, like they did in 2008.

"We were able to cushion the drop" in 2008, said Gina Gruz-Mendez, executive vice president at Philam Asset Management. Mendez is head of the company's Philam Fund Philam Strategic Growth Fund Inc.

Although not expecting the market this year to be as strong as 2010, Mendez said, "Our outlook is very positive." She noted new money flowing into the stock market, suggesting that the outflow of investments by foreigners in the market in the last few weeks could be small.

Cautiously bullish of equity-based funds are underscored by the market's current weak showing.

"Investors in equity funds are coming over through the market is down. When the market corrects, we expect more accounts in the fund, for that hasn't happened," said Marvin Fausse, senior vice president and chief investment officer at BDO Trust.

Gaining popularity

The growing public has been turning to mutual funds and other pooled asset classes to people get wealth with managing their own portfolios. They like such higher returns, promising them to diversify from traditional investments (bank deposits and bonds).

Funds and investment vehicles may have not a hobby investor in investments in pooled funds over the years.

"People are so busy. Markets move everyday. It's so difficult to be a Warren Buffet who could do all his stock picking," said Jose Cesar Mendoza, investment specialist for Sun Life Prosperity Dollar Fund. Philam Strategic Growth Fund Inc. manager said.

"I guess people are realizing that it would be best to leave it to a professional fund manager," said Garcia.

Equity-based funds are getting popular, for they can't have a sense of control to investors. A fund's performance over the past years does not necessarily reflect its performance in the coming years.

Bulls see light

From page B2-1

buying in the first quarter of 2010. It's really liquid, however, the index has climbed to the crucial 4,200 mark, wiping out the losses incurred at the start of the year.

But while the second quarter may still prove to be volatile for equities, the corrections may be mild for the PSEi to retrace by the second semester last year's all-time high of 4,681 all the way in a new peak, supported by expectations of a 9-10 percent growth in corporate earnings. The market remains bullish about robust level of spending, likely to be driven by the government's P1.6-trillion infrastructure program in 2010 and 2011.

The improved trading activity in the first quarter was also a favorable sign. Greater exposure was needed to build a stronger base for a durable rally. Turnover grew 40.2 percent year-on-year to P1.1 trillion. It previously averaged P1.04 billion, or 30% lower than the P1.66 billion during the first quarter of 2010. The combined market capitalization of listed firms in the PSE also grew to P6.92 trillion by end-March from P6.89 trillion a year ago.

"The healthy correction in the stock market is required after last year's spectacular index performance," said PSE president and CEO Hans Sicat.

Regional fund manager Philfed Securities Inc. managing director and president Jose Ma. managing director and president of manager for Asian equities at Philippine Investments, said the first quarter net inflows reflected investor fears of monetary inflation. Philippine managers P93 billion worth of assets globally about a third of which is in Asia and about $600 million is in the Philippines.

The consensus of prospects for equities will not be as dramatic as initially feared, thereby making emerging markets attractive to global funds, the fund manager said. "Now, it's back to square one. We're in that situation where we don't have to leave funds in and out of sectors because geography is location to another," Jose Ma. Ong Ha said in an interview.

Telco euphoria

The PLDT-led digital deal has caused a re-rating of the entire market, especially the PLDT-led telco sector, which is on weight in the PSEi among all blue chips.

"It gave the market confidence and after the release, the whole market followed," said Mark Reuben Angeles, a research analyst in First Metro Securities Brokerage Corp. "Investors have re-rated SMC Street before zoning back to the Philippines a few years ago. Angeles says the telco play having through the second quarter.

Sun Hon Po said the telco sector had become an interesting sector to watch after the acquisition of Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. by Metro Pacific Investments Corp. in 2006. Telecom Holdings Corp. (TEL) would set aside funds for cheap acquisitions.

Limited votes and text messaging services that were earlier rolled out in response to customer complaints from Digitel. "San Miguel [Corp.] is just around the corner. Very likely they would take it seeing down because they don't know what this new player will do," he said.

The fund managers said that while there was no more pressure for now for the telcos' operating margins to dip further, neither will the duopoly raise them. Instead, the telcos are more likely maintaining their existing margins of over 60 percent.

Selective trades

As investors sifted through a bustling market early in the year, the services, financial and property counters took the most heating. These indices tumbled 6.51 percent, 6.22 percent and 5.81 percent in the first quarter.

On the other hand, the mining oil and holding firms climbed quarter, rising 4.3 percent and 1.4 percent in the first three months. Even in an environment of rising commodity prices, mining counters largely benefited from the surging prices of commodities such as gold, copper and nickel.

Moving forward, Sun Hon Po said he would be looking for stocks with growth potential. For instance, he said, banks with a large asset base would do well. Banks with a large scale of traditional lending side of the business are also seen doing better this year as trading gains diminish. Some banks may also lower their provisions dramatically to recognize a potential decline in earnings expected coming from a high base last year, he said.

"There's lending growth but it's still not strong. Those who had a boutique will probably do better as the banks as which banks have the traditional side of the business," he said.

PSE Inc. faces a more challenging period for the property sector, Sun Hon Po said, as it remains to be seen whether the robust sales of 2010 would be sustained. But he said many analysts were dreamy to the sector valuation wise as the second level of construction with a more earnings growth in the years ahead. At the same time, he noted that this sector was among the most battered when the market was jittery over inflation.

First Metro Securities was raising, especially the ones involved in the affordable housing segment. It also gave the favorable commodity cycle. First Metro Securities research analyst Gina Dofia Tinson said the power sector was still attractive and could provide some positive earnings surprise this year. On manufacturing, she said, "There's outperforming the index. They are inflation protected because they're diversified."

While the last wave of fund exposition from emerging market to developed markets is over, it does not mean that another wave of rotation will not occur. It will all depend on what happens in the US, Sun Hon Po said.

"We're still seeing mixed signals in the US. On one hand, US unemployment is improving as it's off its two-year, seven-and-25 percent above the mean). The other side of the coin is housing, which is still bad and that's the structural problem in the US," the fund manager said. Citing a recent survey in the US, he said US housing prices, even as the commonly depressed, were still 25 percent above the mean in the last 100 years. "It's saying it's still pricey. It's probably implying it may take a while for the housing market to fully recover," he said.

Angeles said First Metro Securities was upbeat on the market, although still bothered by the fallout, inflation, lingering risks from Europe and the adverse impact of Japan on the country's export receipts. While local market fundamentals remained okay, the analyst said some domestic headwinds were manifesting in the slowdown in growth of Metro's chief survey sales while the impact of Metro as re-entrances could be felt eventually. "We're bullish yet cautious," he said.

Headwinds

The analyst does not expect so much headwinds from the US, rising improving jobs and retail sales data. The only downside risk to the US, angeles said, would be the fallout from Japan. The fearsome crisis has been practically disconnected except if Japan turns a net withdrawal of the [unreadable] stimulus. They (US Federal Reserve) have to be careful when and how far they're going to do it but I don't see a US rate hike coming this year," he said.

Indeed, treasury by various fund managers, analysts and dealers this year will range from 4,000 to as high as 5,000, such as by stockbrokerage houses Macquarie and Citicorp Online Corp. First Metro Securities sees the index hitting a high of 4,600 this year. Tope. One set still sees underperforming fixed income assets. With a local stock dividend yield averaging 3.3 percent in the Philippines, Sun Hon Po said on dividends alone, it was still better than keeping the money in bank deposits or investing in bank's special deposit accounts.

"The equities market has evolved dramatically into a more efficient asset class. About 20 or 30 years ago, companies would be just to get the tax incentives, offering no dividends or promotion to minority investors," the fund manager said.

The best is this set to come for the PSEi, its 249 listed companies and 133 active trading participants.

Banks, property lead Q2 stock picks

From page B2-1

price to book value of only 1.1x. In 2010, earnings grew by 40 percent to P8.4 billion. This year, earnings are projected to grow by 26 percent to P10.6 billion. We believe MBT deserve to trade at a "respectable bank" price-to-book ratio of 1x, or a target price of P990.00," he said.

▸ DMCI Holdings Inc. (DMC)

"We are strong growth to key industries such as power, water, housing, construction and mining. All these businesses can be found in DMC, which has been in construction for decades and has diversified successfully into toll ways, water (through Isla), property development (DMCI Homes), coal mining (Semirara) and power generation (Calaca).

"In recent entry into the power industry further underscores the strength in an industry with huge growth potential. Its income reached P7.8B, up 4% percent from the previous year. In 2011, net income is projected at P10 billion, with the power business coming in full stream and increasing contributions from its business units. Key contributions from subsidiaries will continue to reinforce its diverse business portfolio with 21 percent of income from coal mining, 21 percent from water, 16 percent from construction, 15 percent from property development and 18 percent from power generation.

"While the average PER of large listed conglomerates is at 14x, DMCI's P/E is 10x. Our target price for DMC for this year is P198.50."

▸ Nickel Asia Corp. (NIKL)

"Our country—rich in minerals such as gold, copper and nickel—is botched-up. Nickel Asia Corp. (NIKL) is a beneficiary of the government's drive to increase its income. One of the best ways to ride the boom is to invest in NIKL, which is the country's biggest nickel mining company and one of the largest nickel producers in the world. It has been producing profitably from its Rio Tuba mine in Palawan since 1977 and has a future mine life of at least 25 years.

"NIKL is in a synergic partnership with Sumitomo Metal Mining Co. It owns a nickel processing plant with a capacity of 20,000 tons yearly. A new HPAL (high-pressure acid leaching) is under construction with a capacity of 30,000 tons at a cost of $1.4 billion, to be owned 25.5 percent by NIKL and 60 percent by JFE. To fund this project, NIKL went public in November 2010 and more its IPO, the stock has gone up 20 percent.

"In 2010, its profit grew 494 percent to P1.4 billion and is projected to grow by 22 percent to P2.2 billion this year. Its big years will be 2013 when profit is projected to more than double to at least P5.5B, when its new HPAL plant becomes fully operational. Our target price for this year is P35."

Joseph Rosas
President
Eagle Equities Inc.
"Rival Commercial Banking Corp. (BCB)

"This is a stock pick for conservative investors. It has a book value of about P55 billion and a market cap of only P27 billion. It is the only major bank (overall) largest in the Philippines based on assets) that is still trading below its book value. In bull markets, banks trade between 1.5 and 2x book value. That means there's potential for BCBC to double in price to reach even just the 1.5x book value level. It's currently trading at a P/B of only 9x."

▸ Global Estate Resorts Inc. (GERI)

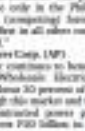
"Formerly known as Eli Estate Land (LMD), GERI is for speculative holding on turnaround. Chase partners shown a reverse head and shoulders (bottom-out) with price target at P0.58. It's a turnaround story with a cash infusion by majority shareholder Alliance Global Group led by tycoon Andrew Tan. It's expected to be the group's exclusive center for resort tourism redevelopment. It has extensive landholdings such as prime properties in Boracay island, including a golf course. It's betting on a casino, and have potentially real casino in Resorts World across Nasa. It is very successful."

▸ Leisure & Resort World Corp. (LRW)

"Already profitable from bingo and the booming of interactive casinos, LRW is expected to increase room capacity thanks to the future because of the 50-50 operating agreements with Belle Corp. If MGM goes to any groups, it's still making through AGI's market cap is now P116 billion. After subtracting Megaworld Corp., its market cap is P50 billion and another P15 billion for Empire East. Megaworld will leave about P92 billion in market cap attributable to the casino operations. Given the same type of valuation, LRW's current valuation is about P41 billion. That means its potential could be 2x to 3x more or about P82 billion more. That is if its upcoming casino turns out to be as successful as everybody hopes."

Ramon T. Garcia
AVP-Sr Co. Inc.
Investment PSEi specialist
▸ Security Bank Corp. (SECB)

"SECB has seen steady growth in market price over the last five years. Its low PSE to its present price of about 16x. Comparing the profit record of all banks for 2010, it ranked 6th in terms of 17 percent."



▸ Ayala Land Inc. (ALI)

"Jollibee's steady stream of acquisitions is remarkable. Its market share is larger than a foreign company dealing in the same food business. This phenomenon is true only in the Philippines. The said (unspecified) foreign company ranks first in all sales comparison in the world."

▸ Manila Peninsula Corp. (MPI)

"Manila Peninsula continues to benefit from MCOM Orthodontic Electricity Span Holdings). About 30 percent of its sales pass through this market and the rest goes to contractual power purchasers. It projects P20 billion to increase to P25."

Reuben Mark Angeles
Equity analyst
First Metro Securities Brokerage Corp.
▸ Globe Mining Corp. (FG)

"Globe is in a 'sweet spot.' Its Nickel mine is defying odds by producing ores with higher metallurgical grade. Monthly gold and copper production is up to 1,000 ounces and 1,000 tons, respectively. Globe's cash position is also strong, which is a plus factor in the current environment of rising interest rates. Its target price is P1.50."

▸ Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. (TEL)

"Globe is in a 'sweet spot.' Its Nickel mine is defying odds by producing ores with higher metallurgical grade. Monthly gold and copper production is up to 1,000 ounces and 1,000 tons, respectively. Globe's cash position is also strong, which is a plus factor in the current environment of rising interest rates. Its target price is P1.50."

Look before you dive in sea of trade, newbies urged

By Dixie L. Lacia

UNLESS YOU have been living in the mountains all these years, chances are you've heard the term been financially rewarding and exciting investing in the stock market can be.

More media-hyped people with information and images about the equities markets have said, should, and have more or less to make you's first million by simply choosing the right stock.

In reality things are slightly more complex. (And less glamorous) than what movies would like to make people believe. According to experts, to be successful at stock market trading, a person has to do a lot of research and self-assessment before risking the plunge. And any trader wannabe will also need disposable capital—the more the better.

But under no mistake about it: participating in one of the most "dynamic" modes of investment available today is extremely and potentially rewarding for the most on the street. But the path is by using the next stock market guru wants with understanding oneself.

Self-awareness

"The first task for a first-time investor in the stock market is to remember what his motives or objectives are," said Chinkee Tan, president and CEO Center for Success.

Tan, known tailored for people. As a long-time stockbroker, he has helped thousands of the biggest global fund managers to the smallest retail investors—attain success in navigating the sticky waters of the Philippine Stock Exchange.

"A newcomer to stock market investing must understand his reasons for investing," he said, explaining that one of the biggest pitfalls for first-time investors is when a lack of self-awareness. "It is better just to trade, or to invest for the long term?"

Once this is established, the novice investor should next search for a stockbrokerage firm that will be able to service his needs, whether it is giving advice on the design of a long-term investment portfolio or providing the platform for short-term, quick-in-and-out trading.

Most importantly, clients should seek firms that would actually help educate them while helping grow their investments.

"People should choose firms that will give them the services they require," Bair said. "One major requirement is client education. Often, they just go to brokers who can execute orders, but who can't help them understand the market."

'Black swan' events

Once a potential investor has determined how much he can allocate for stock market trading, and what kind of risk he can absorb, he has to make sure the source of his funds match the nature of his investments.

Bair said he had seen this every time market corrective times because funds used to buy long-term investments.

"There has to be a matching of resources," he stressed. "If you are buying stocks for long-term growth, you can use money that you will need next week, next month, or until you."

Indeed, the most common error committed by newbies is to believe that excess funds can be used to trade stocks. Experts say while waiting to pay for the annual dues of the house or car next month.

"There are so many 'black swan' events," Bair said, referring to the term used for catastrophic, unexpected occurrences upheavals like the Japan earthquake or the typhoon in the Middle East. "So for me, the best stock investments are long-term investments. And for those, you need long-term funds."

Long-term investments do not, however, necessarily mean huge investments.

Most stockbrokers that trade stocks on the PSE accept client accounts trading as little as P20,000. Many local mutual funds that specialize in trading listed stocks accept clients with as little as P5,000 in capital investment—an amount Chinkee-Tan also accepts.

"We have a facility for us to invite who want to start out at the level," Bair said.

But as a general rule, he advises clients who trade anything lower than P1 million to do what he calls "self-directed investing." I refine think with an algorithmic recommendation from stockbrokers.

Discipline

He died a good broker would provide investments with a list of "pre-screened" stocks from which a client can choose from or five stocks to focus on.

"As long as you stick to good companies, you will not go wrong over time," Bair said.

As he self-is called? It means it is, based on the growing number of clients signing up for Quantedlane's Internet-based trading facility—something that is increasingly being adopted by other stockbrokers.

But it is perhaps Bair's final piece of advice that often makes or breaks stock market investors: "You have to have discipline."

According to Chi-Investor veteran, a client's discipline—he is the discipline to maintain a regular schedule of buying stocks regardless of price, or the discipline to cut losses, or the discipline to resist trading on impulse—is the ultimate determinant of success.

With this rule, any newbie client is already halfway to his investment goal.

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For easy navigation of the retail area, three colors represent categories of rooms: Business and Mobile Life.

For the mobile user who appreciates gadgets that make life easier, freebies and accessories make the phone purchase more personalized. For the landline subscriber who is after great deals and value for money, there are bundle packs with unlimited Internet plus free 600 minutes. For corporate clients, business solutions and service upgrades are offered as free trials.

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Interactive touch screens are installed at strategic areas; self-help areas take the fuss out of lengthy transactions. You can print your billing statement, while flat screens tell you the latest offers and services.

In the shop area, a strict no-dummy-phone policy lets you touch, tinker and toy with working units. Get acquainted with the iPhone 4 or explore tablets and laptops that flaunt fast WiFi.

Your Store, Your Way

Step into a flagship store in Ensenada, Alabang Town Center, Ayala Center Cebu, SM City North EDSA, and SM Megamall and you'll be welcomed into the digital lifestyle of the future. Every need has been anticipated and has inspired a new layout that is easy and interactive. "Enjoying Globe your way" now means you get to experience the best of both worlds in a one-stop shop.

The two-zone layout features an inner core which showcase the most enticing gadgets. The outer ring houses the service area where you'll find the express and the full-service section. Transactions are speedy, convenient and focused. Customers can enjoy a relaxing, comfortable environment.

Be Part of a Greener Solution

No paperless at the new Globe store, with more seamless transactions and a more integrated user database. Documents need not be photocopied. These are simply scanned.

Information Gateway

Globe Life Magazine and the Great Deals catalogue are fresh ways to communicate exciting news. Through upcoming events and new services, customers feel more connected to the Globe lifestyle.

Revolutionary Road

- Eight new stores in 2011; 5 new stores in the first quarter of 2011
- 11 stores have opened at various SM Supermalls—SM City Tarlac, SM Southmall, SM City Fairview, SM North EDSA, SM City Manila, SM City Marikina, SM City Taytay, SM City Baguio, SM City Bacoor, SM City San Pablo in Laguna, SM City Novaliches and SM Megamall
- Customers receive feedback SMS within 24 hours
- Globe has won five awards, including the Asia Philippine Quill Awards for Globe Life and Great Deals

GLOBAL OIL SURGE

Stock traders not ready to push panic button yet

By Aiza R. Reyes

FOR A COUNTRY highly dependent on oil imports as the Philippines, even the slightest movement in world fuel prices can make or break the number of local consumers.

However, the surge in fuel prices will hit squarely on the shoulders of end-consumers—they only will have to allot barely-any-extra money out of pocket and services in the country.

Rising fuel prices translate to higher fares across all modes of transport (airlines, jeepneys, buses, taxis, private) and higher costs of transport and freight services, which businesses large to move food, various products and are nationwide throughout the country. These added costs are then passed on to consumers as businesses are forced to raise prices, even for the most basic commodities like rice.

Escalating tension

Unfortunately for the Philippines, the uptrend in world oil prices shows no sign of letting up as tensions in the Middle East escalate with Middle East and North Africa continues to rumble.

The latest oil report of the Department of Energy cited a Moody's Analytics economist as saying that if oil production in Libya, Bahrain and Yemen would remain offline, oil prices could rise to $125 a barrel. And if Iran were to reduce production by 50 percent, world prices could rise further to $190 a barrel, breaching the United crude's record level of close $146 a barrel.

"The modern [economy] that the current turmoil could escalate across the Middle East into oil producers," the DOE explained.

Still, local analysts believe that oil prices, which continue to rise in small increments or in a slower pace, may not immediately spark a bearish sentiment in the market.

Jonas Lucas, head of research at Campos Lanuza & Company, said in a recent interview that over the short term, the stock market alone would not immediately feel the impact of rising fuel prices as most of the sensitive sectors were not part of the latest index of the Philippine Stock Exchange.

Because of that, the stock may fare-trade sideways for until

When fear strikes

Lucas added that those in the tourist trade, such as hotels and conglomerates including telecommunications firms, were not directly affected by rising fuel prices.

"If you have an oil price that spikes sharply, that will create a bearish sentiment ... But if it's a gradual increase, we generally don't feel the fear immediately. Price will stabilize as if we get, say, a 10-percent increase in oil prices to $US120 a barrel. Then, $120 is treated as a trigger level," he explained.

But Lucas noted that should global oil prices continue its uptrend, rising to $130 a barrel or even higher, and if this level were to be sustained for the rest of the year, the impact would have been felt by the local houses as companies would start to look at earnings differently.

"Optimism will go down. Market was expecting 13 percent earnings growth for ... 2011, and if we have [a scenario in which oil prices] stay at $130 a barrel for the rest of the year, forecast will reflect single-digit earnings growth and that will translate to reduced valuations," he said.

In a separate interview, George Wong, head of Citibank's Private Clients unit, noted that the increase in fuel prices by now would not create a broad investment climate.

"[The price of oil for me, is just one of the factors. All the other factors still point to a bias for equities," the investment guru said. But economic data [are] still more important concerns, such as interest rates, to worry about

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MAMA MIAS!

85,000 ogle at 415 works of 'performance art'

By Tess R. Salazar

GOING TO the max. That's how traffic and security officials would describe the general attendance of the 7th Manila International Auto Show at the World Trade Center in Pasay City. On Sunday, April 10, the fourth and final day of the Show, WTCMM had to be closed to further visitors on six occasions because of the sheer volume of traffic and the crowd.

Bosch Car Service Clinic
April 16-17, 2011 (10am-6pm)
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City of San Fernando, Pampanga
Avail of FREE Vehicle Analysis and Engine Diagnosis
BOSCH Service

High-wattage celebrity power as stars trek to MIAS

THREE MEN AND A CHEVY: Celebrity endorser Tyrone Gonzalez, GM Southeast Asia consultant Mario Ayala and Zest Corporation Car Corporate 5 managing director and COO Alexis M. Jacinto.

HOT WHEELS: BOTTA, Derick Ramsay builds his Alfa Romeo Vortex 960 TS.

HYUNDAI's top guns show how Korean brand rebuilds its power during the Elantra launch.

By Joan K. Ang

THE MANILA International Auto Show attracts car enthusiasts from all walks of life every single year. The 7th edition, held last April 7 to 10 at the World Trade Center and Philippine Trade Training Center (PTTC), was made all the more special thanks to some noteworthy visitors who trekked to the venue and spent some time among the gleaming new metal on the show floor.

Some dignitaries attended at the invitation for the launch of specific vehicles, such as for the all-new Hyundai Elantra. His Excellency Lee Hye-Min, Ambassador of the Republic of South Korea; Shin Kwon Kim, Head of Hyundai Motor Corporation Asia & Pacific Regional Headquarters; Jin Young Suh, general manager for marketing & product planning; Hari chan man emeritus Rashad L. Lee; Edward S. Go, chairman; Conrad C. Manly, vice chairman. The Hyundai presentation was graced by chanteuse-turned-singer and multi-awarded actress Sunn Flores; internationally acclaimed University of Santo Tomas Singers; professional dance group Kindanze Philippines; with the symphonic music from the PR Santos-Ea, conducted by maestro Ernest Salonga. Ford Group Philippines highlighted the strengths of the Ford vehicle lineup, underscored by a rocking performance from The Sirens. Chevrolet Philippines under Ryan Agapzilla joined the launch of the all-new Orlando MPV and Traverse SUV, while Derek Ramsay joined the Volvo team at the launch of the all-new V60. Spectreagen and SM TI orders.

The awarding of the 2010-2011 Car of the Year was also a high point of MIAS opening day, as it brought together some of industry's leading figures. Many visited the PTTC to collect their vehicles' respective awards after a fellowship dinner hosted by the Car Autolife Group Inc. (Cagi). Cagi President Fermary Lee, and their guest president Alfa Sevilla-Mendoza, were on hand to welcome the guests. These included Hyundai Asia Resources Inc. CEO and Association of Vehicle Importers and Distributors President Ho Seon-Ngeuk; GM Southeast Asia President Mario Ajebl, The Covenant Car Company Inc. president Albert Arulla, Columbian Autocar Corporation Glaia Domingo, Universal Motors Corporation chief operating officer and Chevrolet Philippines Inc. Elizabeth Lee, and Ford Group Philippines VP for marketing and sales Rowena Tan. The widely anticipated Car of the Year award was handed out after a ceremony acknowledging the category winners and special awards. David Gilbran was the master of ceremonies for the evening.

HUM THEM ROAR. CATI launches its Mercedes-Benz E-Class Cabriolet.

OPULENCE! After years of speculation, China brand finally looks off at MIAS.

85,000 ogle at 415 works of 'performance art'

From page B2-1

By the time the curtains went down for the last time—at least for this year's edition—organizers announced the final visitor count at 85,000, up 19,000 from last year.

Admittedly, the skimpily-clad human models were quite a big come on for many a classic-loving (career) women may have been occupying the power seats lately, but the sex goddesses only drew—or was appreciative crowd). But for the "motor-mouthable" car addicts, no human flesh, or even fuel price hike, could come between him/her and the worshipped vehicle. And yes, the success of this year's MIAS has been the ultimate night to determine the Philippines' Car of the Year.

A total of 415 cars were displayed (including those of the car clubs, and competition cars), showcased, test driven, and used as performance pieces, most notably by legendary stunt driver Rinn Reiff.

As witnessed by and related to Inquirer Motoring, the entrances of the World Trade Center were closed Sunday upon the intervention of the MVF team as there became the swelling crowd threatened to become unmanageable. Some regular MIAS attendees noted this was the first time WTC was closed several times.

"We needed to provide some form of crowd control to avoid problems. The entrance doors were temporarily closed for a few minutes each time to make sure the crowd finds its way to in the main hall and adjacent East Wing (main building to exhibit the premiere fuel," ex plained Jennifer Dhanzan, assistant vice president for operations of the WTCMM.

People were asked to wait a few minutes as the WTCMM entrances, with the option of going around the multiple activities and displays along the driveways of the venue, such as the CHOCs and the Land Rover 'Inspired displays and Forma (Toyopeak Mobile Media Association) mobile audio competition as well as the Hyundai Club showrooms.

A total of 10 cars were introduced during the MIAS: The Chevy Orlando, Chevy Cruze Diesel, Chevy Traverse and Cruze PFDI with new liveries, Audi A8L, MINI Countryman, Subaru Forester TI and WRX, Nissan Cuscus Vivor Tan cars (customer drop Ulzer's record drawer), Geely Emgrand and Panda, Hyundai Elantra, Chery QQ Electric Vehicles, the Mercedes-Benz E-Class Cabriolet, Porsche 911 TTS, and Subaru Forester Xtrec companies held their launches and presentations here.

Cruze over Fiesta

The Car Awards Group Inc's (Cagi) Car of the Year Philippines awards night at the adjacent Philippine Trade Training Center happened with all the trappings of a blockbuster event, spiced with the presence of auto industry corporate superstars such as Elizabeth S. Lee, Chamber of Automotive Manufacturers of the Philippines Inc. president; Jo Perez Agudo, president of the rival Alliance of Vehicle Importers and Distributors; and Gina Reyes Domingo, the newly installed president of Columbian Autocar Corp. Brand. Ayalel Group Philippines vice president for marketing and sales Steven Tan, The Covenant Car Company Inc's managing director and chief operating officer Alberto M. Arulla and GM Southeast Asia President Mario Ajebl were also present to accept the awards.

Among those vying for the billion Car of the Year award were two American brands: The Chevrolet Cruze and Ford Fiesta. They were in category contentment. In the end, the Cruze edged out the Fiesta to capture the billion Cory plum.

Pedrosa Lee, Cagi president, explained the outcome: "The obvious answer is that with a standing price of just a few thousand pesos over the top of the line Fiesta, the Cruze is a bigger vehicle that offers much roll robar that Fiesta has to offer. Both cars have plenty to offer the prospective car buyer and the final decision as to which one would find a home in a prospective buyer's garage is up to the car owners. You can't go wrong with either one, though, as each fills the demand of a particular market segment."

As for the category winners, Lee stressed, "Simply, they are the best in their respective categories, offering better value for money than the competition."

Well, let the pictures speak for themselves. Ogle as you wish.

LOVELY AND LADIES OF THE FORD BOOTH. Ford and Mazda executives man it up at the MIAS.

PLEASANT SURPRISE. Camp president Elizabeth M. Lee, Universal Motors Corp's COO, receives the Car's Premium Cross Over award for Nissan Murano 233 from Cagi's Rina Zamora and Eric Soriano.

TOP CUTY PLUS. TCCD division for marketing division Jet M. Bueno, executive director Sabina Yu and the man of Chevy receive the billion Car of the Year awards for Chevrolet Cruze.

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- McArthur Highway, Brgy. Dela Paz,
- San Fernando, Pampanga
- Poblacion, Malolos, Bulacan
- McArthur Highway, Balagtas, Bulacan

In Mindanao:
- Maa corner Diversion Road, Davao City
- Guerrero corner Magsaysay, Davao City
- Mahanlua Highway, Dumoy, Davao City
- Davao-Bukidnon Road, Catiman, Davao City

In the coming weeks, more Phoenix service stations nationwide will have clean and cool restrooms. Visit us!

Phoenix Cyclomax Oil goes the distance in Performance Run

The three-day journey took them from busy Manila to the coastal roads of Ilia, Zambales, to the white beaches of Bolinao, Pangasinan, finally ascending to the cool mountain getaway of Baguio City – and back. Through rough and smooth roads, challenging bends and turns, and hot days and breezy afternoons, Phoenix Cyclomax Titan 4T Oil was the reliable and high-performing partner of the selected professional riders in the Cyclomax Performance Run.

From March 4 to 6, 2011, six riders from the JM Riders Club of Valenzuela City took the new formulation of Phoenix Cyclomax Titan 4T to the test. Riding Suzuki motorcycles, the riders traveled 960 kilometers from Manila to Baguio and back.

"Phoenix Cyclomax not only went the distance but minimized engine stress on our bikes," said Jun Mirasol, one of the riders. "It sustained our engine performance and was dependable on all road conditions."

Professional riders test the dependable power of Phoenix Cyclomax Titan in the recent Phoenix Performance Run.

Two of the bikes were dismantled and the engine parts displayed during the Inside Racing Bike Festival last March 26 to show the lubrication efficiency of the oil and its cleaning properties on the engine parts.

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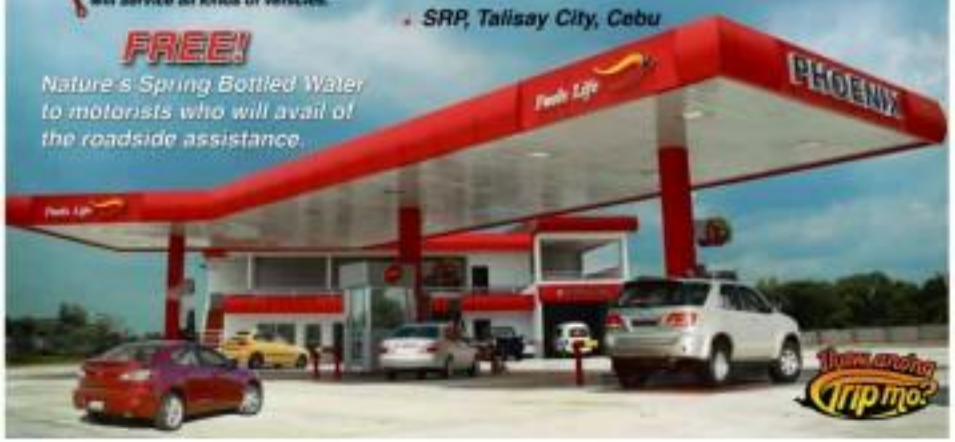

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MOTORING

Editor Joey R. Alvarez

Seen and heard at the Coty awards night

ON THE ROAD

Linda Serrallo-Mendoza

ANY AWARDS night that kicks off with a scrumptious buffet dinner is off to a good start. That was what happened last Thursday when the Car Association of the Year (Coty) Philippines awards night at the spacious Philippine Trade Training Center on Roxas Boulevard.

The PTTC is located right beside the World Trade Center. PTTC, the structure of the 2011 Manila International Auto Show (MIAS) that opened on April 7, Thursday and closed April 10, Sunday, in a new extension by the Coty awards night to be held there. With 80% Partly there Manilenos as target partner, Hera Hilmen Services International, the organizer of MIAS, pulled out all stops to make this year's car show the biggest and most spectacular ever, occupying nearly 28,000 square meters of exhibition space, more than the PTTC and the WTC's East wing added in adjacent venues. Given the expansion, the number of stances to the MIAS have room since have soared to the 78,000 feet point.

At the Coty dinner, I met Gigi presidente Herman Lim revealing a clue to the car show since its history. The awards night, after all, was supposed to be a formal affair although many guests showed up casually attired. Looking chipper in his suit with necktie, Herman told me that the MIAS would be the world's president awards big, the Coty awards night would not have been possible. Ever since 2003, when Gigi initiated the Coty project, World has been an related partners. Unlike other international car awards, Coty car awards, not media associations of motoring journalists—they are no longer sponsorships from car manufacturers and dealers, nor require them to pay admission fees to enter their products in Coty nor "invite" them to join sports events or car shows where the organizers live is to the figures.

FORGIVABLE. The food was not good, complete with soup, salads, prawns and lechon buffet, also, slow service, but the awards night was forgivable. Especially with the Mandaluyong Auto Show since Its CEO Ricardo and Universal Motors Corp. CEO Bob Lee. The Lees, who were recently reelected president of the Chamber of Automotive Manufacturers of the Philippines, Inc. (Campi), which counts the rival Philippine International Motor Show (PIMS) every other year, would never have been seen here the MIAS were it not for Coty.

Later in the awards program one, the two lady presidents were seen sitting with their respective seats in the second and third row, beaming the image. Did they have their husbands wonder. Also seated in the second row with the new Columbian Autocar (Bic) president, Gina A. Domingo. The only female CEO standing was Aston Martin dealers' (BMW) Monica Flores, who flew to Germany that night with her sisters for a BMW Carrier event. As pundits have noted, women power is rising in the Philippines more indeed.

For the Coty awards program, chairs were arranged, classroom style, in front of the stage in a way, dressed-off area, requiring the vintage chief automotive cars on display in PTTC stalls B and C to be temporarily parked closer by a bit. The Coty category winners were crowned and parked along the aisle at the left side of the stage and unveiled by dramatic and pretty girls in multi-colored mini spin-outfits. TV personality David Celdran emceed the program and the lively Coty performed a song and dance number.

MOST AWARDS. There six winners were announced. Honda had garnered the most awards with three, the Honda 2.4 CLS for the Midsize Car of the Year, the Toyota 3.5 RAV4 for the 4WD Compact Crossover of the Year and the 2WD Santa Fe 2.2L diesel for the Midsize Crossover of the Year. Mitsubishi entered two category awards: the ASX GLS as 2WD Compact Crossover of the Year and the Montero Sport GLX 4x2 as Midsize SUV of the Year. A Chinese brand, Foton, also got two awards: the Bluecrest 2.8L Sport Utility MT as the Pickup of the Year and the MPTC Van as the Van/MPV of the Year.

There were only 18 categories since Gigi had eliminated categories that had only one entry. The number of entries was also down because of this but been counted previously and had cut undergone major changes. That rules for that had an entry to an instance Vios 4E" wins car, while models that had a new engine, an all-new body or a major facelift were counted. Slowly introduced models like the Ford Fiesta, Kia Soul, Chevrolet Cruze and the Foton were, of course, let in. All were in their respective categories.

By capturing the Subcompact Car award, the Ford Focus 1.6 Trend hatchback beat the standing and Toyota Vios 1.3 Tiba Cedar 1.3 CVT Dressed the Ford Focus 2.0 diesel-SPI sedan, the Toyota Prius and Toyota Corolla Altis 1.6 and 2.0 in the Compact Car category. The Kia Soul 1.6 defeated the Suzuki SX4 in the Subcompact Crossover category.

THE DEED. Prior to the awards night, the buzz was that the fate of the four championship cars was a dead heat between the Focus and the Cruze. Surprising, since both came from the two biggest dealerships in the nation. Known for producing huge, gas-guzzling SUVs and pickup trucks, Ford Philippines' first sedan, surprising even the Fusion SUV and the Everest Crossover, is boasting the value figures of The Commuter Car Co., Inc. (TCCI), Chevrolet's Philippine distributor.

But the Focus won the top COTY award, it would have been the first subcompact car to do so. But as fate would have it, the Cruze bagged the championship, earning me thrilled to sing with the Chevrolet camp. TCCI managing director GIO Albert Arvilla on the stage to accept the big trophy which deserved Motors boardroom management, Agfid subsequently held aloft for photo ops. Agfid is still mine. Agfid held the trophy up high, a significant victory for a GM brand that only one and a half years ago under previous management was bleeding.

Closer to think of it, Arvilla was the only team on the company CEO's presence. Did he have a premonition that the Cruze was going to win the Big Gun? I was too busy congratulating all the winners to ask.

TODAY'S ILLUSTRATION. The only illustration the good motorist's is fuss-reflexes.

THE AWARD THAT COULD SAVE LIVES. Viking Cars Inc.'s assistant vice president for marketing Leo Concepcion de Guzman receives the AAP Road Safety Award for Volvo S60 T6 Pedestrian Detection system from Coty's Beebee Borges, Bobby Consunji and the others

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Natsume new HCPI president

TOMOYA NATSUME, former marketing director of Honda Siel Cars, Inda Ltd., a Honda Cars Philippines' auto premiere and general manager of Accord April 1.

His Philippine assignment marks a significant change in his career in he celebrates his 20th anniversary in Honda.

This is his fourth overseas assignment in his nine-field years in Germany and India.

Apart from his assignments outside Japan, he also has handled the Latin America, Middle East, Africa, Asian Oceania and China operations from Honda Motor's headquarters in Tokyo.

The new president and CEO shares his enthusiasm with his employees. "I am very excited to get to know Filipinos better."

Three years ago, he visited the Philippines to conduct a market study.

Natsume joined Honda Motor Co. Ltd right after graduation in 1980.

"My first car was a Civic. I fell in love with its excellent performance and just high-priced in the United States," he smugly answered me to join the company," he said.

NATSUME

'The fast, the furious, and the highway demon'

SKID MARKS

Jojo Ali Sanchez

I'VE HAD the pleasure of enjoying some fun, hair and exciting cars the last few days. Three purpose was the same: to indicate speed and power as well as excitement to their drivers. Funny how all three cars could be so different.

As some of you know, my on-going project car, a Toyota Supra from the original Fast and the Furious, since has been commissioned to undergo a lot of finishing to bring back up to speed. We did a lot of maintenance work recently: changing fluids, filters, oil seals, changers and upgrading the tuning and the like. We've also been doing a lot of street tuning as the car's main driver (CL) to improve its road manners, emissions emissions and increase overall efficiency because today's gas prices isn't friendly. We've also added a whistle for of ITP sound-deadening to eliminate as much as possible the annoying noises in the cabin and noise in the interior's pretty much stripped of almost all common creature comforts. It's supposed so much, for less hassle and bring back all the stuff but supposed the paraphernalia are all in the garage of my house—my cars, my girl sees it to make it appear no car for the road. Not so much a track car, but a car feeling saves car decently comfortable enough to do long drives after all the work, it's significantly less racing as drive, still as enjoyable to drive and the car's shiny and enhancement means I can keep paying longer without running to shave up at a drive. Running up and down the new and improved highways of SCR, enjoying the ~400 or so bhp's my Supra is purring out. It felt cocky displaying all the power as only the rear wheels with my gear-ratios from to the only sensation caused confusion if the roads were less than seconds, it means rolling on the throttle instead of just stamping on it, but it's a great improvement for driving on public roads. Today, a bit worse has schlocking somewhere. Afterwards, I left my car back at my buddy's shop. Ate some more work to be done + a happy camper so I got on to my new ride, a Lancer GLS-A.

During Sunday driving my car as almost fun-my speeds for two hours, I was tired. But getting into the Lancer, with its newer model 1400g, I was surprised to find myself humming the Lancer from the get-go, driving my car was really not a chore and Gear Sunday evening. And that's the funny thing. I think I actually went quicker, it was not actually faster in the Lancer, because of the track, the Lancer would probably not change

LANCER SKILL-ART. Drive it to your satisfaction!

around me Supra, given my skill level, if both cars were driven by me, me's Driveline limited there's more than one of me). Technology has definitely moved the game forward. Performance cars are supposed to be much more easier to modern cars, there's less and less skill involved in the performance equation. In the Lancer, I turned on the tie at the middle of the moment I got used to the car and upon words, the engine, I had to make more everything, precisely the revs and the inches to the gears, confirm on-line clutch, was scanned up before I could even floor it in 1st gear system but none are my thing to running that must-be-clutch thing.

But the most extreme case of technology moving the game forward? The Nissan GTR. Priced with an 8M-Z7000 tie, the Nissan was (Supra or Lancer will drool over my mouth, of coast in an instant, embarrassing women, and hoggish wording in traffic). I love both the GTR and the Subaru WRB Aero drive effectiveness. It makes a more manual like me feel like a driving god without breaking a sweat. Literally. But I also love how my Supra's very kinky demeanor makes being able to drive it fast could accomplishment for 10 of me. Objectively, both the Lancer falls to, and the Nissan GTR are much quicker, and the GTR in particular leaves Supra-humanly though, and I thought about it for a while, I actually still do prefer the Supra. It's honest, doesn't suffer from any illusions of grandeur, and is massive lot of adrenaline, it makes me feel alive. Even if I'm losing sweetness by every time this.

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UNDER THE TUNER'S HOOD. The Mitsubishi Lancer GLS-A's drivetrain would probably run circles around its Supra

Rock-solid confidence

Supplement to Real Living Section

REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM AND MEDIA

A tripartite collaboration for national progress

By Joel F. Migan

THE PROPERTY industry is bouncing back from the global slowdown which has plunged real estate values in recent years. Real estate developers have been coming up with great building designs and architectural innovative practices and methods in order to offer more people to be acquainted with their products and services and at the same time get access to financial resources favorable to their client's needs.

As these methods have evolved, the PREF management has recognized the vital importance of both tourism and media industries in propelling the progress of real estate. In its continuing thrust to provide a one-stop venue for everything one needs to know about real estate development, PREF Events Management holds the Philippine Real Estate Festival 2011. Now on its 38th year, PREF 2011 aims to be the ultimate hub for real estate developers and practitioners. PREF 2011 will be held at the World Trade Center from July 28 to 30.

This year, PREF's adopts the theme "Real Estate Development, Tourism and Media: A Tripartite Collaboration for National Progress." PREF will underscore the contributions of real estate development, property tourism, and media in working together to achieve development on a national scale.

"The festival will showcase our country's best example of successful investment in real estate development in the country today from high-rise condominium medium-rise buildings, low-cost, and socialized housing. Tourism development including resorts and retirement homes will also be featured. This exhibit will be the prime location to display the products and services by select allied industries like financial institutions, suppliers and the like," says Rene Basa, PREF Events Management president and CEO.

In line with this year's theme, PREF 2011 will serve as the venue for information exchange in the relationship among the real estate development, tourism and media and its role in contributing to national progress. It will heighten interest between buyers and sellers in the real estate, tourism and media industries and promote opportunities for network building among these organizations.

President Benigno "Bimboy" Aquino III and Vice President Jejomar Binay have been invited to grace this event as the guests of honor and speakers to briefly share the event. Many government leaders will also be invited to share their insights on their respective areas of jurisdiction and their roles to industry development.

Aside from government leaders, the festival will feature talks from distinguished media personalities from the broadcast and print media. Various media circuits and interaction are set to develop a business and focus as effectively communicate key messages in specific and targeted markets will be tackled.

Representatives from key shelter agencies will be present to give light to different issues affecting real estate developers. These shelter agencies under the umbrella of the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council (HUDCC) include the Home Development Mutual (HDMF) or the Pag-IBIG Fund, National Housing Authority (NHA), Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board (HLURB), Social Housing Finance Corp. (SHFC), and Home Guaranty Corp. (HGC).

"We will also have a design showcase where we will display the student young talents and skills of our students who are bound for designers and architects. Interior schools will be able to participate in different design disciplines for development of the real estate industry. This will serve as the venue to develop young minds and be immersed in public-private partnerships to promote our country-building," Basa says.

PREF 2011 will be wrapped-off with the presentation of the PREF Excellence Awards, which aims to give recognition to notable projects that have made a significant impact on the real estate industry. Invited to be the guest of honor and speaker is Supreme Court Chief Justice Renato Corona.

The festival will be punctuated with a concert performance from well-known celebrities in the country. At the end of each day from 4:30 to 6 p.m., the public will get to enjoy musical performances, also featuring the country's talents. Performers for each concert include the country's top bands, singers and actors.

The festival is expected to draw in attendance generally from the public who are in the market for various types of condominiums, house and lot packages, and the like. Other industries, trade associations and groups from all sectors of society, government officials and representatives from local government units have also been invited to the event. For inquiries, call tel. no. 810-2050 or 864-3224, or e-mail at pref_eventsmgt@yahoo.com.

VICE President Jejomar Binay and PREF Events Management president and CEO Rene Basa

SPEAKERS during the 2010 PREF with the theme "Global Tourism and Real Estate Development." Shown are (from left): Jimmy Cura, Tony Lopez, Willy Arrilla, Aron Sarkun, Rick Borria Kierulia, Peter C. Basa, Lindsay John Ong

LAST year's Philippine Real Estate Festival drew guests from various sectors including (from left) former Rep. Ed Zialcita, Raymond Ringpis, former President Fidel V. Ramos, Jose Valencia, Sen. Ferdinand Marcos Jr., and architect Joe Palafox.

Phinma Properties launch six new projects

Mid-range developer to capitalize on real estate boom

PHINMA PROPERTY Holdings Corp. (Phinma Properties) has announced that it will be undertaking a major expansion in 2011 as it seeks to capitalize on the current real estate boom. The company intends to launch six projects this year, including their first vertical condo in Metro Manila. It is currently eyeing opportunities in urban centers like Cebu and Davao, which will of be the same price range as their developments in Metro Manila. Phinma Properties is among the leaders in the said range real estate market offering quality and spacious developments for as low as one million pesos.

Phinma Properties president Willis J. Uy says the country's real estate boom is set to continue, as there is an acute shortage in housing in the country. This is also true in the lower brand bracket market or affordable market. "Due to this market status, there is a backlog of about 85,000 to 90,000 in Metro Manila, and the industry can only build less than 15,000 a year," he said. The affordable housing market accounts for about 20 percent of the total backlog and expectedly the company's growth story dwells.

The company he says, intends to benefit from its affordable financing terms and has project turnovers. Phinma Properties is currently the only developer in the country to be awarded a Triple ISO Certification for Quality, Environmental, Occupational Safety and Health Management standards. Its building system allows a five-storey walk-up building to be completed in as to eight months, with one floor being finished every seventeen hours. The system allows it to build uniform, affordable, and durable condominium units more than its competitors. All the projects that will be launched by the homeowner's investment as they are more into their unit within six months.

Among the projects to be launched by the company is Asya Enclaves Alabang. Located in Muntinlupa, Asya Enclaves Alabang will be a 3.5 hectare condominium community and will be composed of three Asian-themed, low-rise enclaves that will uphold the company's tradition of fast unit turnovers and high-quality developments. "Again, what sets us apart in this project is the price," said Uy. "We're starting this at P6,000 for modestly sized units. It's probably the best value for money right now in the market."

Uy adds, "Each of Asya's enclaves will be designed different. The first phase will have a Japanese theme. The second will be inspired by Thai architecture. The last of the three phases will have designs inspired by Indonesia particularly Bali." The Japanese-themed condominium, Ohana Enclave, will employ the use of smaller sophisticated units characteristic of modern architecture. The Thai-inspired Ista Enclave will bear the orchestral wonders of the country. Its elaborate architecture will come into play sparingly – enough to be memorable while complementing the other two condominiums. Meanwhile, the Indonesian-inspired Ista Enclave will feature tropical fruit architecture.

Phinma Properties is also set to launch Antonio Place in Pasig City and Solano Hills in Tanay, Rizal. Both of the developments will each have its unique theme catering to its specific target market – the hip and trendy Antonio Place for the young urban professionals while Solano Hills will cater to young start-up families, businessmen, and Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs).

Since 1987, Phinma Properties has been known for the construction of several projects for developments in the Philippines such as the Manila Polo Club Tower, Ayuso and the Manjusa Villas. The company touts because one of the leaders in low-cost, mid-rise building with a pipeline of projects that target the emerging middle class. Among the company's more recent developments include Joan van Arkwright in Paranaque City and Flora Vista and Bella Bellevue, both of which are located in Quezon City.

For more information, visit www.phinmaproperties.com or call 535-6800 or 0917-535-6800.

ASYA
ENCLAVES ALABANG

A community of three low-density, Asian-themed enclaves with generous open spaces, ASYA Enclaves Alabang is a perfect environment for families or young professionals with active lifestyles who yearn for a combination of seclusion and serenity with the convenience of easy access to the metropolis.

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Condo living in the tropics

WITH LOCATION still a key consideration for individuals and families looking to buy a home, the emergence of "vertical communities" addresses needs and realities while providing new ways of living for many middle income Filipinos. The country's enterprising major real estate player, DMCI Homes, has been steadily creating middle- to high-rise communities in accessible areas, utilizing efficient construction methodologies while ensuring an upgraded quality of life for their residents.

Large populations choosing to stay and live in urban centers (where work, places, educational institutions, and entertainment centers are clustered) has resulted in families contending with urban families for space and limited housing options. Even as the middle-income segment is willing to allocate hard-earned pesos for a well-valued property, living with extended families or renting cramped quarters has become common, temporary solutions that provide the growing family with a place to sleep and eat much else – an omnipresent fear driven locally-ourselves away from home to find inspiration for others instead of inviting them to stay in.

In recent years brought new challenges and new solutions in the field of residential development. DMCI Homes began making its mark through the development of themed condominium communities for the middle-income young family market. Vertical communities are allowing residents to literally reach new heights, transforming people's perception of what they can call home to beat fast-paced, urban times.

DMCI Homes allots about 60 per cent of the total land area for open spaces. The dream of a wide lawn enjoyed by just a single family has been adjusted to accord realities, ensuring that in 2002 Homes condo neighborhoods, land portions are efficiently maximized into sprawling and lush common areas that provide places to mingle, play, stroll out, and relax, while still providing privacy and security for its residents.

ROSEWOOD Pointe

ORIANA Place

Fully aware that the temperate weather in the Philippines is an attraction for other nationalities and is something that Filipinos abroad miss about home, it was vital for DMCI Homes to remind Filipino families of our country's relaxing tropical climate. The Luxuriant design technology which is a proprietary construction feature in most DMCI Homes high-rise properties, honors the essence of the tropics because it allows natural light and ventilation in Pinoy virtually unimpeded inside the condominiums. This is an imaginative feat for a builder developer, because incorporating features to ensure and house develop, units means sacrificing about six units per floor to accommodate more open spaces.

Condo units in DMCI Homes projects provide a balcony view of the city skyline and of verdant nature within and outside the community, while design features and amenities like pools and high-ceiling lobbies echo the tropical vibe. Smart like previous home lovers integrated into the developments, including sound-deadened security and controlled gated access service, and emergency level personalized service.

With condo-communities that evoke and embrace the tranquil spirit of the tropics, DMCI Homes families will no longer feel the need to escape to some faraway place to feel close to nature and unwind from daily stresses. Unit buyers have a choice from ongoing resort-inspired developments such as Cedar Crest and Royal Palm four towers in Taguig, Magnolia Place in Timbang Sta's QC, East Gaya Gardens in Bulig, Flair Towers and Trees Garden Residences in Mandaluyong, La Torri Residences on Taft Avenue, Illustrious Residences in Sta. Mesa, Ohana Place in Las Piñas, Siena Park Residences in Parañaque, and Rhapsody Residences in Ilang-ilang.

DMCI Homes is the country's premier triple A builder-developer that brings serviced, themed communities within reach of urban families who once had limited residential options but still aspire to achieve a seamless, enriching quality of life proximate to their place of interest. For information on DMCI Homes projects, please call 334-8888 or visit the website: www.dmcihomes.com.

The West Tower at One Serendra:

A place to engage all your passions

IMAGINE HALF the size of an American football field, or an area where you can park about 200 cars. That's how much combined space you have for fitness and wellness at One Serendra. In the metropolis, it's next to impossible to find more than half a hectare of fitness and wellness facilities in a central, lifestyle residential development – except at One Serendra.

A development of Ayala Land Premier, One Serendra continues the best features of city living with the added benefit of a suburban lifestyle to create up-scale condominium living experiences. It is also the core of the Bonifacio Global City, a fast-growing commercial district of choice for many multinational companies and corporate headquarters.

The West Tower at One Serendra, which has the capacity to comfortably host up to 90 guests. In 2012, the Portico of East Tower and in 2013, the Lanai at Mira Tower, will be completed, with each venue able to accommodate 150 and 180 people, respectively.

Inside One Serendra, residents will find the pleasures of life-nesting just outside their front doors. And, beyond its green landscapes, cultists, society, and excitement await. From the trendy Shops at Serendra outlets to the one-kilometer long Bonifacio High Street, today's coast of pleb retail and dining outlets offer a multitude of possibilities.

Shops at Serendra and Bonifacio High Street are the hottest venues for shopping, dining, and mingling today. Open spaces with cafe-trained landscapes, interactive art, and pedestrian-friendly paths ease residents and visitors away from the typically congested streets of the city and into the center of wide open pleasures.

"At One Serendra, the events community celebrates the harmony of work, play and home," Gil says.

Going home to One Serendra is having more than a place to live. It is a place to feel and be alive. The rise of the West Tower at One Serendra gives one last chance to become part of the One Serendra community and its privileged lifestyle – a life where every moment at home is a moment for delight.

A development of Ayala Land Premier, One Serendra combines the best features of city living with the comforts of a suburban lifestyle to create condominium living experiences. It is also at the core of the Bonifacio Global City, a fast-growing commercial district of choice for many multinational companies and corporate headquarters. The West Tower at One Serendra, which has the capacity to comfortably host up to 90 guests, is one of several amenities within the One Serendra community and its pedestrian-friendly paths ease residents and visitors away from the typically congested streets of the city and into the center of wide open pleasures.

NSJBI raises the bar with new amenities

OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND for businesses carving out the country's huge housing backlog. Housing projects are on the table mark if they keep the workload ratio of earning within the viable price range.

But sale or profit margins is certainly not what only spells the best for a property company like the Shoe San Jose Builders Inc. (SSJBI). Opting to further impact on the quality of life for the residents it built, the family SSJBI raises the bar for life by adding to the mix of its residential units and swimming pool concept and comes up with a new complex there newly members only Sports Complex, the first of its kind in affordable condominium offerings.

SSJBI chair Gerry Arenas says the company looks for at the benefits that the new Sports Complex, rising a total of open of over 2 hectares, brings to the communities that SSJBI serves.

For the company that has been a trailblazer in its chosen sector its inception in 1986, the opportunity to be the pioneer in of active and healthy lifestyles in SSJBI communities. It extends further to national sports development, as the sports complex provides facilities that are fitted to competition standards, and they provide a good venue for training and much needed host tournaments and leagues.

Homeowners in Victoria Station 2 (near the MRT's Ortigas Extension station) and Victoria de Manila 2 on Taft Avenue gain exclusive access to the 6-lane bowling facilities, Olympic length swimming pools, basketball courts, gymnasium-fully equipped gyms, tennis, badminton and basketball courts, billiard halls, open activity centers and a members-only spa that are part of the Sports Complex.

The extensive indoor and outdoor sports facilities are also going to expect upfront modern design such as glass-enhanced features, an added treat to the exclusive club-guests and patrons.

SSJBI's Sports Complex is the largest and the only one of its kind in Dasmariñas. SSJBI, in collaboration with top, professional sports facilities managers, is set to operate the Sports Complex in a way that would maintain the high-level upkeep of the facilities and maintain the exclusivity of use for members.

An agreement to creating living communities, carefully planning has been a key component of SSJBI's developments. The addition of the Sports Complex brings about a wide array of possibilities for events, tournaments and sports-rest activity planning.

"The sports facilities really is our commitment to the modern Filipino family," says Arenas. "With the influx of high-tech gadgets, children today spend so many hours sitting down, enjoying their computer games, watching television and interacting with friends through texting and instant messaging. Parents need venues to encourage children to be physically active and we are addressing this need without sacrificing affordability of our projects."

Arenas beams with the company's vision that the SSJBI sports complex will hardly relationships in Filipino families while helping nurture, discover and train the country's exciting sports talents. "We are glad and excited to see the fruits of this investment, as manifested in the active lives of people," says Arenas.

For more information, call the sales office of Victoria Station 2 at 413-1032, 490-8383, 436-1369, 433-3466; or at the sales office of Victoria de Manila 2 at 442-7777 loc.237; or log on to www.ssjbi.net.

Time to move up to The Koncord

CITY LIVING is made easy with the launch of The Koncord, a 21-storey condominium unit/s comprising residential units and ground floor commercial units developed by Koncord Pacific Property Development Inc., the high-rise property is strategically located beside A.Venue Mall along Makati Avenue and is just a short drive away from the Central Business District and Rockwell Power Plant Mall.

The Koncord is designed to be a harmonious low-density development where all residential units face a breathtaking skyline of Makati and Mandaluyong especially during the night. Its residential architectural design was conceptualized by one of the top architectural firms in the Philippines, WV Consultants & Associates. It was constructed by industry veteran Federal Builders Inc. with elegantly stylish model units done by the popular interior designer duo Ivy and Orbi Manalo.

The residential units come in sizes of 31 square meters to 95 square meters. The development also boasts of first-class amenities such as roof deck infinity pool, tiers in door fountain, saunas, children's play area, gym, and roof deck gazebo which is perfect for parties and function rooms.

Safety and security are foremost in The Koncord's development as CCTV cameras shall be installed to every hallway. For those who own more than one (or the first investment) parking is not perfect.

For inquiries, call 896-9999 with offices at Makati Direct Center Makati Avenue, Makati City. Log on to: www.theKoncord.com.

FROM TURF TO SURF:

The Active Group's resort communities

EASILY FILIPINO streams of his own iconic red metal. Built on 40 acres, the Active Group, one of the country's leading real estate developers, has transformed raw landscapes into vibrant homescapes where dreams do come true. Twin highlands where the pressed meets the sky, all the way to shorelines where the land kisses the sea, the Active Group has provided its homeowners a quality of life that goes beyond shelter.

The Active Group's premiere project is the world-renowned Mount Malarayat Golf and Country Club and Residential Estates. This deserving community of private homes, condominium clusters, casual dining and sports facilities is nestled on 200 hectares of Lipa City's highland plateau, a cool and pleasant 1,200 feet above sea level. And because of its elevation, there is no worry of floods or landslides.

Mixed in hour's drive from Makati, through the recently improved South Luzon Expressway (SLEX) and the Southern Tagalog Arterial Road (STAR), Mount Malarayat is a convenient destination for those seeking a second home, an intimate escapade, a weekend getaway, or a breath of inspiration.

The Mount Malarayat Residential Estates' many contemporary Spanish casas, Mediterranean villas and American Georgian style homes all are in an idyllic neighborhood designed to foster a casual and congenial community. The first phase is practically sold out. The project's second phase, The Courtyard, is briskly selling. And only a few remains for sale from the project's third phase, The Palm Gardens.

For those who prefer the convenience of condominium living, there is The Suites at Mount Malarayat. Planned and built as a cluster of low-rise residential condominiums, said owners can enjoy unobstructed and sweeping views of the Malarayat mountain range and the golf course. The Suites offers a myriad of possibilities for retirees or weekend vacationers with their family and friends to enjoy at their own pace. Like a cool climate to rival Tagaytay's, and neighborhood by the market and haunts of Pancho and Willy, with magnificent scenery to soothe the soul.

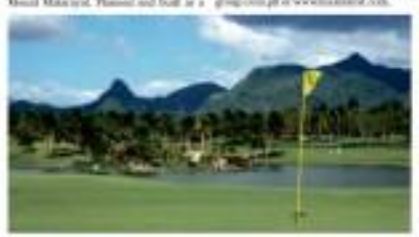
For energetic individuals and fitness buffs, facilities for basketball, tennis, badminton, squash, and table tennis are readily available, not to mention an outdoor fun-filled activity for the family and friends of Pancho and Willy, with magnificent scenery to soothe the soul.

For energetic individuals and fitness buffs, facilities for basketball, tennis, badminton, squash, and table tennis are readily available, not to mention an outdoor fun-filled activity for the family and friends of Pancho and Willy, with magnificent scenery to soothe the soul.

The centerpiece of the estate is the 27-hole all-weather championship golf course, with its Par 9 Hole No. 7 voted by Golf Magazine as one of the "Top 500 Best Holes in the World." In 2009, the Nicklaus Design Associates golf team was named Master Builders as "the best golf course in the Philippines." Golfweek's Golfing Philippines concluded the course as "picture-perfect."

Those with families will appreciate the convenience of living close to excellent schools like La Salle Lipa, modern shopping malls like SM City and Robinsons Place, as well as dining and entertainment centers, even modern medical facilities. Lots of course, is very much steeped in culture and history, and is home to religious landmarks like the centuries-old line between Cathedral and the Convent of the Discalced Carmelites.

For property previews, please call Jennie Alvarado at (02)810-9401 or visit Active Group websites at www.activegroup.com.ph or www.malarayat.com.



Convenience of condo-living with PTR Properties

THERE ARE many advantages to embracing the condo-lifestyle. Because of the unit size – on average, it goes from 22 square meters to 60 sq.m. – condo living is typically low maintenance, and the individuals and families opt for this modern lifestyle get to enjoy amenities and other conveniences.

Embracing a livable space is, however, is another matter. Careful planning is needed when it comes to making a condo unit's typical space limitations and factors such as wall colors, furniture and appliances should be meticulously considered.

"It's a good thing that interior design and industrial design have merged already, and that those in the business of developing homes recognize the need for more open floor plans, so we work together," said Arnold Ocampo, interior designer that has many property developer PTR Properties has commissioned for its mid-rise and nine residential developments. "This makes it easier to present to the market condo spaces that are already stylish and beautiful to begin with, so the future condo dweller won't have a difficult time putting together his customized space."

Marieles, who used to reside in Dominique Esplendor, recognizes the cultivation aspect of the condo-only where most of PTR Properties' projects are situated. From this alone, she was able to come up with modern home ideas for the company's mid-size development such as Grand 21 Place, The Fifth at Rafael, One Capitol Condominium and 2/7 Residences. For more information, visit www.ptrproperties.com or call 426-1888.

Life in paradise at Sun Valley Estates

THERE CAN you possibly be avoiding when your home is just about 30 minutes away from Cubao or less than an hour from Ortigas Extension, yet you are immersed in nature, playing golf, tennis, soccer, or basketball, or fishing, kayaking, bird watching, jogging, hiking, having a picnic or simply strolling around a magnificent landscape of verdant hills filled with trees and all the other wonders of creation, throbbing with the beauty and bounty of life? Probably more than you can think of unless you've heard about the posh 100-hectare subdivision called "Sun Valley Estates", which is nestled around the hills of nearby Antipolo City.

"Here in Sun Valley Estates, it is a pride and pleasure to live in the mountains because there's exotic where we are, some 300 meters or 1,000 feet above sea level. But, we are just at the border of Metro Manila and we live amid the glory of nature with all the comforts of modern living," said one resident, explaining why she decided to be amazed for security reasons. "In fact, you would feel that you were in a very special environment for some of the well-preserved natural beauty of the entire place, secluded from all the noise and pollution but actually very near to Metro Manila's city life," she added.

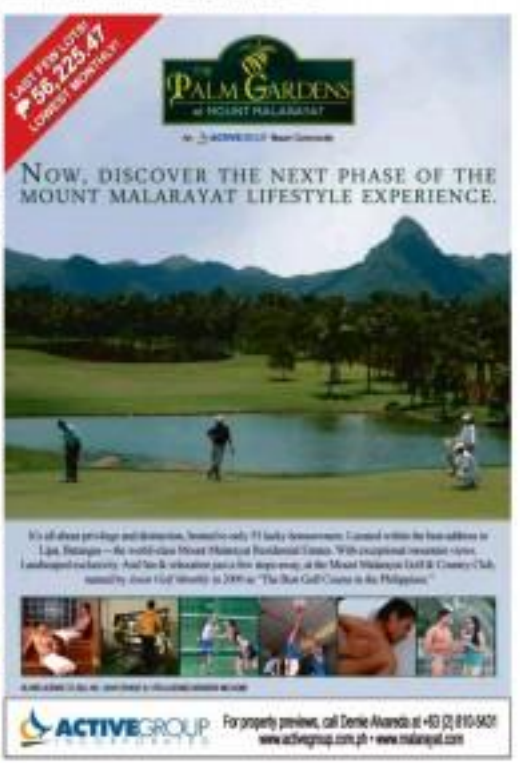
No wonder Sun Valley's 1,100 lot, curb measuring some 300 sqm or more, are about 80 percent sold. This recent like residential enclave is also endowed with a well-laid terrain, complete all year round. Its beautiful scenery is matched only by masterfully designed facilities that include a golf course, swimming pools, tennis and basketball courts, clubhouses, pavilions, a lagoon for fishing and kayaking, and an ongoing construction of a junior soccer field, all amid the breathtaking splendor of nature fully captured and framed in the subdivision's 360-degree expanse.

The well-maintained golf course, designed by the world-renowned Arnold Palmer Design Company is very challenging and competitive as it follows the natural terrain with plenty of water features and verandahs. The golf course has its own luxury hotel for players and other guests staying overnight or longer. The resort style is romantic and sophisticated, while the swimming pools vary in size – 9m x 20m semi-olympic pool; 12.5m x 25m golf pool; 8.0m x 15m pavilion pool; and 7.5m x 14m condo-minium pool. The pavilion at Phase 4A can be used as a venue for various social functions and big events. It has also has a restaurant offering native and foreign cuisines.

And unlike the typical clubhouses of most other subdivisions, those in Sun Valley Estates, including that of its golf course, have high ceilings supported by columns with an outlet to take advantage of the cool breeze that permeates the entire enclosure. The roads inside the subdivision are 22 meters to 26 meters wide with trees dotting their entire length. The streetlights are only 25 meters from each other, making the entire subdivision fully illuminated at night so can be seen from everywhere in the vicinity. All around the subdivision are plenty of open spaces, parks and greenbelts. Just outside the subdivision are plenty of worship like the Dionisian Church and the Iglesia ni Cristo, SC center, the Roman Antipolo Church, or the Shrine of Our Lady of Peace and Good Voyage, is just a few minutes away by car, jeepney or tricycle. Even the Sun Valley Estates subdivision have its own private and exclusive elementary and secondary schools.

Lot and house owners of Sun Valley are not only golf enthusiasts, but also businessmen, corporate executives, local and foreign officers, embracing migrant Filipinos, and celebrities, among others, all experiencing what life is like in paradise.

More information can be obtained from www.sunvalleyestates.com, or email marvilla@yahoo.com.ph.



FLAIR TOWERS

Picture a condominium development atop 1.4 hectares of prime realty, approximately 1 hectare of which is occupied by resort-like open-air leisure amenities, including three swimming pools, a jogging path, a pavilion, a landscaped garden, a picnic grove, and many more. Aside from the outdoor amenities, you can unwind at a fitness gym, game room, music room and bask in the splendor of the Observatory, a plaza park located at the roof deck, where a sky lounge and view decks beckon.

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All information stated is intended to give a general view of the project. The developer reserves the right to modify as it sees fit without prior notice. For announcements purposes only.

Lito Thelma Sioson Sarjusa

LIFESTYLE Home & Entertaining

She loves to cook and style. He loves to cook even more complicated fare— and selects the wine and music

MARICAR and Alby Xerez-Burgos

How Alby and Maricar Xerez-Burgos turn hosting dinner into a husband-wife affair

By Alex Y. Vergara

GROWING UP in the house of her maternal grandmother Carmen Cruling LuYO in Pasay, Manila, Maricar Xerez-Burgos thought it normal to entertain people regularly. Since her lola was into cooking and various social activities, they had guests over for lunch or dinner almost every day.

"We had two cooks, and I often found them discussing the day's menu with my lola," she says. "I got involved in conceptualizing big (sumptuous) feasts."

To broaden her avenues, she opted to take up interior design instead of hotel and restaurant management at Assumption College. It only managed to "level up" her hosting skills, she says, since her chosen vocation complemented her homegrown cooking skills. Table settings based on certain themes soon became second nature to her.

Like a sponge, she continues to absorb every useful hobby-related image she sees, whether in a hotel or private party she and husband Alfred "Alby" Xerez-Burgos, president and CEO of Lancaster Pacific Corp., happen to attend here or abroad.

She even does simple flower arrangements. For this shoot, for instance, Maricar not only cooked the food (Fusarosi, including chicken liver pâté and artichoke dip, and mixed fajitas), she even arranged the red roses that accented her and Bettie dining area.

She also made canapés of melba toast garnished with cherry tomatoes, mushrooms, shaved goat cheese.

The breaded veggies were all produced

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SUN CELLULAR POSTPAID

How Alby and Maricar Xerez-Burgos turn hosting dinner into a husband-wife affair

From page C1

by Leisure Farms, one of the family's best sellers, named after a weekend destination in Batangas.

The bookstore fare had such dishes as Caesar's salad, hotel pares soup, paella, beef caldereta and shrimp sautéed in garlic and olive oil. A staff of two and good friend Rosanna Gonzales, a restaurateur, assisted her.

"So long you give me enough time, I won't get stressed out," she says. "There are certain dishes that require time to prepare. It took me two days, for instance, to start sun-dry beef caldereta and at least a day to do the chicken liver pâté."

But Shalimar is used to whipping up things on short notice, when, for instance, Alby would unknown bare only two days before that he had guests coming over for dinner.

Full-time homemaker

Despite the demands of raising four kids, two at home (Marissa still finds time to host sleepovers and sing sessions with her staff-cum-bands), and at least 40 guests every month, December and January can be pretty hectic in their three-story Spanish-Mexican style home in the south.

The couple hosts an average of four to six parties during both months. Shalimar and her staff can handle as small as 10 guests, and others with at least 20 guests. For parties with 30-40 people attending, she supplements her cooking with catered dishes.

Apart from a small courtyard and several pocket gardens on the ground level, the couple has a spacious third floor terrace that's perfect for big events, for more intimate meals, her dining room can comfortably accommodate eight people.

"December, of course, is devoted to Christmas parties and reunions," she says. "January is my and Alby's birth month. Since we have several sets of friends from college and high school, we try to host separate parties for them."

There was one December several years ago, soon after the gave birth to youngest daughter Andrea, now 2, when she did get a bit stressed. It wasn't because she lonely was out of hand in serve guests.

The couple just weren't sure when their special panel, Instrumentation Ministry Filipinum, a relative of Alby, would pop up. To be fair to him, he also visited another relatives living nearby after braving the Velarde traffic. He eventually arrived right before the Christmas Eve Mass.

The couple also hosts annual Thanksgiving dinners for Leisure executives. Since it's Alby's way of showing his appreciation for a job well done, he himself cooks main dishes consisting of soup, salad, roast beef and pasta for their scrapbook.

TOP: MULTI-COLORED grapes illustrate cream cheese and pimiento bites for pica-pica. Above: To add a playful touch, Maricar sometimes brings out these cocktail utensils

THE FAMILY'S Spanish-Mexican-inspired house has a mini-courtyard and huge terrace on the third floor for big parties.

FISH canapés set on melba toasts and garnished with Leisure Farm veggies such as cherry tomatoes, basil, mushrooms and pearl cheese, pacific apple pie with cheese crumble topping and vanilla ice cream

MAGICAL: Burgos designed this dining room with enough splashes of red, but from the table.

More complicated

Shalimar takes care of coordinating and choosing the caterer, menu, table setting, flower arrangements and music. Ever since Alby got hooked on cooking, their parties have become a husband-and-wife affair.

"But Alby's style is different and much more complicated than mine," she says. "Aside from grilling steaks, he loves to cook complicated soups and pastas."

Boodlers, for instance, has one place in Alby's list of ingredients. Like his idol, American celebrity chef Bobby Flay, he uses nothing but chicken stock for his soup, which sometimes takes two days to prepare.

Since he also loves to entertain, Alby has become not only Shalimar's partner but also her chief critic. "Pwede mo? (Can you do) says Shalimar, will never do for him. He's also quite involved in the planning.

"Since he's also into wines, he's responsible for pairing the right wines with the right meal," she adds. "That's why, even if he's not cooking, he needs to know in advance what I plan to cook. He drinks of everything, down to the music."

She shares her husband's philosophy when it comes to throwing parties. Apart from making it worth their guests' time and effort to drive up, they want them to linger. That's why the couple prefers holding parties on Fridays and Saturdays.

"For us, the perfect party is when your guests become oblivious of the time, when they don't try to make excuses that they have to go home early," she says. "Still parties are definitely not for us. A relaxed sit-down dinner with good company is as far and as it gets."

CAESAR'S salad and beef caldereta

RED roses pick up color of curtains and seat covers, red plate charger

FAME International highlights Philippine raw materials

THE PHILIPPINES' rich resource of exotic natural materials serves as inspiration to many international and local designers. In each edition of Manila FAME International, top names in the design industry have always been a part of the show in ensuring its position as the premiere platform to source high-quality and design-driven merchandise that are fashioned from indigenous materials.

The country's primary trade show for home fashion lifestyle puts the spotlight on the country's finest widely used iconic raw materials and adopts a special setting dubbed "TAU: New Dimensions."

The special setting will have two components—Heritage Mall and Ideas Walk—both of which trigger even more creative applications for tomorrow's memorial trends and designs. More so, the special setting will be a birthplace of new process in design thinking that will inspire fresh ideas and generate a new appreciation for and regeneration of Philippine design.

Heritage Mall will feature handcraft background, notable designs and technological developments and design innovations through the years of the three highlighted raw materials. Ideas Walk highlights experimental sketches, product prototypes, technological breakthroughs from artisans and designers who made a mark in Philippine design.

Organized biannually by the Department of Trade and Industry through the Center for International Trade Expositions and Missions, Manila FAME International is one of the longest running trade shows for lifestyle products in Asia Pacific and the only accredited event in the Philippines by Union des Foires Internationales, a Paris-based association of trade fair organizers. It also offers the world's discerning buyers a wide selection for home interiors and fashion compliments.

Manila FAME International, the country's trade show for home fashion and craftsmanship, continues to become a popular destination for best designs in home and fashion lifestyle products in Asia.

It remains one of the favorite sourcing destinations of famous brands, such as Pier 1 Imports, Crate and Barrel, Neiman Marcus, Ballard Designs, Baldwin, Ikea, Lawrence of La Brea, Hermann Hermann, Pottery Barn, Lane Crawford, Link Fung, El Corte Ingles, Heal's, Habitat, Bonny, Impressionists, Au Printemps, Debenhams, Ikea, Home Depot, Target, Kohl's, Bon Marche, BHS, Bonanza, DC Home, Home Libretto and Bowring Collection.

For more information, log on to www.manilafame.com, e-mail mail@manilafame.com.ph, tel. 8727-2301 (Manila FAME International Secretariat).

Easter camp and summer courses for kids

CHILD EDUCATION Work, Guns will conduct Painting and Arts and Crafts classes at Discovery Summer Camp for children ages 6-9 on April 13, 20 and 27, while children ages 10-12 will have their sessions May 4, 8, 11 and 15. Camp Magnificat Excellence Technical Institute, Beacon International School and Garrison Corporate School Manila.

Discovery Suites' Professional Skills Enrichment Center (Pricom) offers academic enrichment programs for kids and teens with the Early Intervention Reading course for children 1-8 years old on April 12, 25, 26 and May 2. Speed Reading and Study Skills April 30-May 14, and Basic Speed reading April 16-May 3. Pricom is accredited Macleod Educational and Training Institute resource persons.

Illustrator and graphic artist, Rhea Mendoza will be hosting a Comics Creation class for kids 11-13 years old on April 16, 23, May 8, 15 and 20. Her 15-minute animated film "Something Asian" was first shown in the Cinemalaya 2007 Awards in the Alternative film in the Animated Short Category. She created "Silahkanlah," a cooperative comic strip which ran in Tempo.

Mehaldi Chopping will be offering photography classes on April 25, 27, May 2 and 4. Her exhibition skills are those of former Philippine President Fidel V. Ramos and famous figures, politicians, artists and society icons.

65-turned-fashion Santiago Cua has been recruited to teach April 12, 26, May 3, 10, 17, 19, 24 and 26. She is a Physical Education teacher at Ponciano Learning Center and UP Diliman.

Discovery Suites' executive chef Luis Chikiamco will conduct culinary class on April 19, 25, 29 and May 3 (for children 6-10 years old) and April 20, May 10, 12 and 30 for students 10-12 years old. The course includes a session at Child-Aligned Kids Kitchen Center and a cooking demonstration at the Pantaleon mall.

All classes will be at Discovery Suites in Ortigas. Discovery resorts and hotels is managed by HSMI Asia Pte hospitality Management. Call 1138888, 7138000, or e-mail marketing@discovery.com.ph.

Easter camp in New World

The New World Manila City, Manila Hotel will have an Easter Adventure Camp April 21-24. Two adults with two children below 12 years old on level of the Easter Rooms Package and stay at a Superior room for P16,500 on selected hotel for two for P15,900. The package includes two tickets to the Easter Adventure Camp for Easter Sunday, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., in the hotel's Grand Ballroom where spaghetti, hotdogs, burgers and french fries will be served. There will be face painting, nail art salon, kite workshops, mascots, bingo and bubble shows, egg hunt a "survival" kit will be given away. Kids are encouraged to come in their best summer camp costume. Tickets at P750, available at the hotel lobby counter. Call 5138888 or 7568-99.

Jungle Easter in Shangri-La

Bring up your kids in their favorite safari, tribal or animal costumes and join "Jungle Tangles" Easter activities, April 24, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., in the Ballroom of Edsa Shangri-La in Mandaluyong. Every P500 ticket entry you a chance to win a holiday trip for two at Shangri-La's Boracay Resort & Spa and several round-trip tickets from Cebu Pacific. Call 6339999 or e-mail events.mktg@shangri-la.com.

Manila Bay cleanup

In celebration of International Day for Street Children, the National Council for Social Development Committee on Street Children joins "Bantang Lumanggas para sa Kalikasan," a Manila Bay cleanup project on April 22. Also to organize advocacy walk on Roxas Boulevard at 8 a.m. Over 7,000 children and 20 NGOs including Streams Foundation, Dio Amoranto Children's Village Foundation and Bahaghari Center will participate. It aims to instigate change in policy and/or action for street kids.

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Do-it-yourself

By Anton Barredo and Marisa Lopa

TEDDY bears make adorable bookends.

Making (creative) ends meet

BOOKS MAKE great home accessories. But the key is to keep them neat and pleasing to look at. Don't go reading to the store just yet; a medley of creative options may be available around your house. Practically anything you can put weight on to hold books upright will work. Teddy bears make adorable bookends, and add a whimsical touch to your display. Here are some great ideas that'll keep your guests talking.

Gold architectural molding

What you'll need:

Piece of architectural molding

Piece of ½ inch-thick wood, measured to the width and length of the molding

Approximately 4 inches to hold the books

Small nails, hammer

Method:

Nail piece of wood to bottom of mold to form an L shape.

Ceramic salt and pepper shakers

Create a story with ceramic figurines that may be positioned to look like they're holding your books upright. Set them on top of wooden stands by using extra-strength glue or clay. The weight of the wood stand is what will be actually keeping the books in place.

Practically anything you can put weight on can make whimsical bookends

CREATE a story with ceramic figurines.

LIFESTYLE Parenting

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Should we teach our kids to not be too kind?

By Marina Benipayo
Contributor

MOMSPEAK

Write us your story @inq7.net @inquirer.com.ph

Being benevolent is a wonderful virtue, but if it comes to a point where you have nothing left for yourself, it is like disregarding your own importance

WITH MY son Joshua, who graduated from grade school just last week

I DID a report on psychologist Jean Piaget years ago, when I was doing my MA. He believed that with regard to our children, "We should take them seriously." As young as they are, we should notice the habits they are starting to form.

Ever since he learned to walk, my son Joshua has constantly reinforced the value of generosity, appreciation, empathy, laughter and simplicity in all things.

When he was five, I gave him five pesos to spend every day. Knowing that they brought thick ever-smokeys-school-anyway, I had always assumed he spent it on candy.

One day I arrived at his school earlier than usual. He didn't see me arrive, so I thought of following him, just to see what he was up to. He approached the canteen counter and bought two lollipops for five pesos. But he didn't put them in his pocket. He gave four of the lollipops to his friends.

However, another friend approached and asked if he had another lollipop. He looked at the one in his hand, and happily gave it to his friend.

Value formation

I didn't tell Joshua about the incident, but kept it in mind, to see if it will happen again. And it did, this time with ice candy. At first, too, gave the last piece, supposedly for himself, to another friend. On our way home, I felt curious enough to ask why he was always willing to give his last treat to someone else, because he could've just said it was his.

He simply answered, "Mama, he didn't have any money to buy ice candy for himself." Then I asked, "But, baby, aren't you worried that there aren't be any more left for you?" With a smile on his face, he told me, "It's okay, mamma, there'll always be tomorrow, I will have my own then."

A few days after, while Joshua was enjoying his Jollibee fried chicken, Mark just mentioned how delicious the chicken skin looked. Joshua paused for a while, and

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SUN CELLULAR POSTPAID

NOKIA portfolio manager Mike Smith introducing Nokia E7 during its launch at Shangri-La Makati's Kind Ballroom

NOKIA E7

NOKIA corporate communications manager Nikki Alva and Dondi Cuttilan

ALEX Yao Hagan, Nokia E7 endorser, and brother Ken Yao Hagan who was in town for the Nokia-sponsored exhibit

NOKIA retail and customer marketing manager Cristine Trinidad, head of cars Jessica Tee-Ale and marketing manager Nikka Lazarus

GLENN Ong

The newest smartphone lets you do business anywhere

NOKIA marketing services manager Corrine Bacani and Alex Vicquiot

CAMYL Jimenez and Ee Agulia

Flying to Hong Kong to see Eric Clapton in concert

WITHOUT BATTING AN EYELASH

Maurice Arcasjobe

Photos by Alex Van Hagen
posed by MIKE MAC ISPO

NORA PULLED a fast one again, palangga, by sending out first with the newest, awesome smartphone Nokia E7, reportedly launched with an instantaneous friendly connected party which had tall beautiful glamour, brave, macho dancers, and lovely intimate music in not the right mood, dahlings.

The ideal Ballroom of Makati Shangri-La was resplendently transformed into a perfect vacation getaway reminiscent of Bali and Boracay, while music played in the background, creating a breath-antimore. Nokia E7 is the ultimate smartphone for businessmen during business trips, on vacation, and even on the road to accomplish office-related tasks.

A yummy Hawaiian-inspired buffet was followed by a short presentation by attractive host Gerald Celdoran and Nokia device portfolio manager Mike Smith, who discussed the full features of the Nokia E7.

The fun afternoon ended with loads of lucky guests taking home Nokia smartphones, plus a trip for two to Boracay with accommodations at Sea Wind Boracay Resort, dahlings.

Throughout the happening, one of the world's fastest mid-to-the-phone brands effortlessly commemorated the E7's tagline: "Business doesn't need a desk, make it everywhere you go."

Nokia E7 is available in Dark Gray and Silver White, at around P52,000.

For more info, contact Nikka Alva, corporate communications manager, at (632) 8989783, e-mail nikka.alva@nokia.com, or visit www.nokia.com.ph.

LUCHIE and Loren Yeh

CINDERELLA designers Mustafa Kamen Pe and Rosaura Ocampo

Eric Clapton in Hong Kong

It all began with brilliant lawyer Una Amanda Manero' idea to jet off to Hong Kong and watch the concert of Eric Clapton. So, without batting an eyelash, 36 of us agreed to go and watch it.

Most of the gang stayed at the Four Seasons Hotel, Hong Kong side, while Monte Carlo-based banker Edward "Nino" Lacson, our host, stayed at the swanky and elegant Peninsula Hotel Hong Kong, together with mega businessmen Al Bengco and Dhar Go-Jumagon with their respective wives, Carla Reyes T. and Marlou Echaus G.

All of us arrived a day before the concert, so that night, Nino Lacson hosted an elegant dinner at world-class gourmet restaurant Caprice of the Four Seasons Hotel. The awesome menu and wines Nino chose were totally to die for.

From the seven-course dinner my three top choices were Duck Foie Gras Rolls Cinquième Brioche and Granny Smith Apple in Gewürztraminer Poached Scottish Salmon Filet and Mousseline Lentils in Pate Gras Emulsion, and French Beef Rib Eye Intrigued Black Truffle and Boulangère Potato in Smoked Jus.

Then, we moved on to the lobby of the Inn, while the others who were staying at the Four Seasons moved to the hotel's bar for a nightcap.

Next day was the day of the concert! After we all met at the Four Seasons, we jumped into the Sky Train which took us directly to Asia World Arena. Here our tickets were distributed to each of us. What, palanggas, was through the kindness of Al Bengco, mahn!

The concert was packed to the rafters, and when Eric hit the first chord of his guitar, the show went on a wild roll from the screaming, dancing, clapping and singing, along with many of Eric's famous songs. Salve!

Among those from Manila I spotted in the concert were Peng and Vicky Reyes de Taglo, who flashed in every song. Nikki's pals from Hong Kong were Penelope Bevin Bonken of Local Motion fame, Boots Meyer, who joined visiting pals Gregge and Irene Abrams; Bernice and Ian Tanlaid; Debbie Domingo; Hilda Lo, adorable couple, brilliant COO of Asia Brewery and the sublime, Misfuad Tan, and his wife, Jenny with triple Magazine Pg 1; and businesswoman Louie Chanlatte.

The crowd went bananas each delight when Eric played "I Shot the Sheriff" with the backup singers adding to our euphoric state, dahlings, as well as when he sang "Nobody Knows You," "Badge" and "Layla." Again, that scene made me proud of us as moved on to Hong Kong's ritzy-chi private Key Club. Thanks to Louie Tronard, his sister, late dinner, hosted by lawyer Una Amanda Manero, palanggas.

Jairo Deez launches home-furnishing company Domus

Fully booked yapos' wedding mega-achiever Jairo Deez and his wife, eye-catching Chris Yam-Deez, launched their latest venture, Domus (domus.com.ph), a home furnishing company specializing in ultra-modern design, contemporary high-end furniture, premium flooring and home accessories at Greenbelt 5.

Domus Gallery founder and flooring are from two renowned European brands Parador and Haro, which are well-known for their "intimateness of what a home should be," explained the happening host, TV personality Monica Rakete, while German executives from Parador and Haro, and the couple's close pals, headed by Makati Mayor Jejomar Binay, no less, headed the list of invitees, dahlings.

Domus is at Space B1-07 Lower Ground Floor, Greenbelt 5; tel. 6223180 and 6253112; or visit domus.com.ph.

Gerald's golden heart

He's got good looks and boyish charm, and is a sought-after actor. For his 22nd birthday, Gerald Anderson spent close to celebrate without a lavish bash, palanggas. Instead he spent an afternoon with patients from Cancer Warrior Inc. It all started when they came to visit the "Pinoy Big Brother" house at the first "PBB Teen" edition. "Since then, guest ko na sila palagi[hin]," says Gerald, who has been celebrating his birthday back with the patients for four years now.

The was done in partnership with one of the country's famous fast food restaurants, Chowking, which gave Gerald a reason to buy commitment of "transforming the ordinary dreams of sixteen-feet have led them to this wonderful partnership," said Chowking marketing director Edward Arandia.

Gerald met the patients of Cancer Warrior Inc. at Chowking Timog-Tomas Morato in Quezon Ave., who were welcomed for an afternoon of fun and games, dahlings. They were treated to the totally yummy fare ha ko, perfect for this hot season.

"The people from Cancer Warrior Inc. are impressed with the Gerald's dedication to helping improve the lives and giving hope to the patients," Amarilis said of the artist, palanggas.

Now there's a man who truly cares and

MARIEL Rivera, businessman husband Chay Cajayagan, Carla Tengco and Hernie Carlo

ELIZABETHPHH and art collector Basilio Bengson and Mabel Webb

ERIC Clapton and, inset, with his backup singers

NIA Francisco and her husband, proprietors and CEO of INQUIRER.net and Townsville Broadcasting Corp. Paolo Prieto, lawyer Liza Arsuaga and her husband Ian Bengbeng Marcos, and Nene Lacson

WITH MARINA Bulliard, GM of Hong Kong's Key Club

NENE Lacson (seated, 3rd from left), our host for the dinner in Caprice, Marites Calalang, Marlo's Zobel and Chay Cajayagan (standing, rest, Irene Gaa Marcos, Louie Yalnad, Al and Carla Yongco, Migs Zubiri and Sen. Bongbong Marcos

AT THE LAUNCHING of Domus—the store's first couple, Jairo Deez and wife Chris Yam, with guest of honor Mayor Jejomar Binay

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BOLGUY Magazine deputy editor Paolo Reyes, Carla Lopez and architect Monique Albert

GERALD with Star Magic PR head Thess Gobi, giving gifts to a kid

GERALD with patients from Cancer Warrior Inc. on his special day

THE BIRTHDAY boy and his little guests enjoying Chowking halo-halo

GERALD Anderson celebrated his 22nd birthday at Chowking Timog-Tomas Morato, Quezon Ave.

Should we teach our kids to not be too kind?

From page D1

with a smile on his face, excitedly offered his brother the whole cake!

I am suddenly reminded of a poem, an atom where I mentioned "delaying gratification." There were examples of what that means. I am aware that Joshua values the happiness of others—his family, classmates, friends, even the cashier who smiles as I pass by our house every day. I have always reminded my children about sharing. But what if he carried on that trait to adulthood, and thinking realistically, what if some might end up taking advantage of his kindness?

So I realized that it's not just the case, unless that we teach our kids, like generosity, justice, humility and honesty. Equally important is to teach them supporting principles, such as being discerning. Being benevolent or kind is a wonderful virtue, but if it comes to a point where you have nothing left for yourself, it is like disregarding your own importance—your own self. It's not about being disrespectful, but knowing when to give and how far you should be willing to give.

Negative experiences

It is natural for parents to wish that our children don't have to go through such negative experiences. But then, we also know that, as our kids are growing, so is their need for more independence and good decision-making for their coming life experiences.

Joshua is now 11, and I still see strong signs of his growing naivete. From time to time, I tell him this story from his past, and ask what he thinks. His opinion changes now and then, and I share with him different choices which may help him, shortly.

He is now, he refuses to accept extra allowance when he and his friends go out, and just now, he offered the last cut part of his pork chop dinner, which he never ate last, to Mochi! I guess I have to tell him the story again.

Well, at least nowadays, he really thinks first, and discusses things with me before going up that "last piece of candy." He still does sometimes, though, but I figured that if you could give up something you don't actually need in the first place, that's fair enough.

Now, there is a broad area of discussion between kindness and selfishness. If you give up something of importance to you for the well-being of another, that's selflessness. This is where and task as parents gets more challenging. Our commitment to help my son children achieve the fulfillment of their full potential is immeasurable.

Fingers was right. Taking children as morally close matters. After a while, you recognize that habits formed as we are by age will solidify as they grow older. The saying "You cannot teach an old dog new tricks" could hold true—even if the "old dog" is still a teenager.

Building character

All we ourselves are not only born, but bonn. Observe, not only me. Let us teach our children to be not only compassionate, but also discerning. To be respectful, but also know how to respect one's self. Let us show them that in being resilient, deciding to move up and forward without being stagnant shows value for one's life. A phoenix may rise from the ashes, but the greater victory is when one takes flight from the ashes ground.

Guiding a child or building his or her own character is truly hard work. And it is best to start in their tender years, and make time for quality conversations. But then we, too, learn valuable lessons by paying extra attention to them, asking their opinions, and actively doing something about their inclinations, which need regulation.

Never let the time pass, for this is an opportunity to make more sense of the road we travel. If we learn to be more than what we already are, patient enough and consistent in our pursuit for more meaning in our lives with our most precious ones, the trip becomes exciting and more definitely rewarding.

The author is a self-development and behavior management speaker, and conducts seminars for employee motivation, leadership and empowerment. She is also an instructor at the School of Business and the Arts. E-mail her at marisa_barquez@yahoo.com or visit www.marisabarquez.com

Don't be in a rush to claim that 'prize'

THE CONSUMER
Linda B. Bolido

WITH ALL these attempts to get you to part with your hard-earned money through the Internet or the mobile phone by telling you that you are a winner, but that you'll have to send money to claim your prize, it may be wise to remember suggestions from the United States Federal Trade Commission (FTC) on how to spot a scam.

Items should immediately trigger alarm bells. Where they ask you to act now, particularly to come cash immediately, the most reason to slow down and think carefully. Remember that haste makes waste. In this case, haste will make you lose money.

The FTC, as quoted in a MSNBC report, said, "The key to successful imposters wants is getting you to send money before you find out what's really on the other end. The more time you have, the more likely you'll figure it out. Resist the pressure to act immediately before you've checked it out."

Whether they are asking you to "load" their cellular phone or to pay for the processing of your prize, they usually want the transaction done immediately.

The FTC said wiring money should be a no-no. "Wiring money is like sending cash; once it's gone, you can't get it back. Don't send a check or money order by overnight delivery or courier either."

Well-known corporation

Some scam artists try to make their pitch sound legitimate by claiming they work with a government agency or some well-known corporation. They might even use a real employee's name.

It is best to also remember the first advice—do not act hastily. Call up the government agency or the company and check if they are running a promotional campaign or giving away rewards. If it comes to pass, find out if he/she really works in the office or company mentioned. Talk to the person.

I once got a call saying I was "instant scratch-and-win party" telling me I was chosen to receive one of the rewards they were giving away to mark their anniversary. I have not even heard of the company, much less had any dealings with them.

Luckily, somebody I know worked in the building where the company's office was supposed to be located. He did not find the company itself, although there was an office with a name that sounded like my caller's first. When he asked them about the reward program, nobody knew anything about it.

Another time I was cultivated by someone who claimed he was with the Philippine Appliance Foundation (but I had seen a brand-new television set. His story was that all warranty cards for different brands were sent to their "foundation," which took care of coordinating it to the concerned manufacturers.

I called up the service center of the appliance I bought to see if there was really a "clearing house" for warranty cards. It did not surprise me that they denied that there was such thing. They said every warranty card went directly to the company concerned.

Antibiotics misuse

The World Health Organization (WHO) warns that age-old diseases are on the rise, and the fight against such serious illnesses such as tuberculosis and malaria is being undermined by the "misuse and irrational use" of antibiotics.

People continue to take antibiotics like it was a headache pill and without a doctor's prescription. They have a fever, a toothache, a cough, or any health issue, so antibiotics are always cited and they immediately take an antibiotic. Without a doctor's advice, they decide how long they will take

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OCEAN Park's entrance got a facelift and a more efficient way to welcome guests.

NEPTUNE'S Restaurant is surrounded by a huge aquarium, so diners were dining with the sharks and other fish.

Even the fish are living it up in Aqua City, the HK tourist spot's newest attraction

A new 'city' opens in Ocean Park

by Tezin Tang

KIDS who aren't afraid of heights can check out the view from the top via the tethered hot-air balloons.

YOU KNOW an aquatic theme park is bound to be cool when the CEO roaring you around the facilities is a man named Tom Mortbeaux, who looks like the doppelganger of Robin Williams, while Chairman Allen Zeman thinks nothing of strapping a rocket to his back to propel him self onto a stage for the opening ceremonies of Ocean Park Hong Kong's latest attraction.

Aqua City is the newest addition to one of HK's oldest tourist spots, another completed phase in the park's HK$1.35-billion six-year master redevelopment plan. The opening of Aqua City coincides with the relocation and modification of Ocean Park's entry and exit points, making the park easily accessible to visitors.

The flagship theme zone replaces the park's 34-year-old aquarium rolled And- head, as it, too, will undergo renovations to accelerate the facility. At first glance, Aqua City's design is a modern architectural twist. Even the glass blue egg-shaped hotels, which looked like an alien spaceship when lit up at night, to the inside, where the Grand Aquarium is home to 5,000 marine animals of roughly 400 species.

All these are showcased in great viewing decors like the Bubble Tunnel, the world's largest aquarium viewing dome, with a diameter of approximately 26 feet.

SYMBIOSIS, the ocean's fight and flee chase in clear viewing.

Keenly observed

Treading the inner workings of the Grand Aquarium. For some to realize that those marine animals living at Ocean Park have it made. They are fed as much as six times a day, while their behavior is keenly observed for any signs of illness or unrest.

Aqua City's big aim is to convert an immersive the visitor to aquatic experiences—without getting wet. Even the zone's theme dining area, Neptune's Restaurant, is set across a floor-to-ceiling glass aquarium, giving you the experience of eating in the company of sharks and other big fish.

Younger guests or any marine life enthusiast can learn more about the aquarium's self-sufficiency of ozone conservation in the classroom, where they can be educated on how to rehabilitate ozones and how to practice sustainable fishing for food. This ecosystem message of sustainability and conservation is also evident in the nightly outdoor show called Symbiosis, featuring light, water and fire in one not to be miss spectacle.

Aqua City, dubbed the crown jewel of Ocean Park, is hardly the final salvo in its master redevelopment plan. More attractions are upcoming, like the Rainforest rollercoaster set high up on a cliff and other thrilling adventures, making Ocean Park a must-where in HK.

AQUA City, Ocean Park's newest attraction, features the world's largest viewing dome.

DON'T forget to visit the adorable pandas.

FREEZE THE DAY!

And enjoy the moment with the new Jollibee Choco Crumble Sundae!

The latest delightfully indulgent treat from the country's number one fast-food chain Jollibee is sure to freeze your busy day and melt your worries away. The new Jollibee Choco Crumble Sundae is a rich and loaded concoction of creamy vanilla soft serve with five toppings: delectable coffee syrup, rosemary peanut butter syrup, luscious brownies, crushed cookies and peanuts. All these put together to give your taste buds a blissful experience that lets you enjoy a more rewarding break time.

Affordably priced at P136, the Jollibee Choco Crumble Sundae is perfect for busy office workers who want to enjoy a cool break away from their hectic schedule. So if you're having a stressful day, you can set your deadlines aside for the meantime and enjoy the moment with this new indulgent dessert only from Jollibee.

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"a blissful experience that lets you enjoy a more rewarding break time."

Jollibee Sundae also comes in two other variants: Rocky Road Brownie (for P136) and Chocolate Sundae (for P129).

An Ocean Park planner

PLANNING a trip? Check out these tips for a super fun experience.

1. Plan ahead. Check the weather forecast. Explore Ocean Park on a sunny day to fully enjoy the areas. The folks at the park have extended their operating night hours at Ocean Park until midnight (due to end of different attractions. Check their official website: oceanpark.com.hk and look at the map to mark the priority attractions.

2. Dress comfortably. Ocean Park is situated on a cliff overlooking the sea, so expect inclined terrain and make sure to wear shoes made for walking. Avoid bringing unnecessary items to lighten your load.

3. Bring a camera. You'll want to take lots of photos, and you'll definitely want to check out the animals—try asking the keepers to extend around their time.

4. Go on a weekday. If you can, avoid visiting the park on a weekend to maximize the number of attractions you can access, and minimize long hours at the queue.

Top 10 things not to miss:

1. Joy to the awesome joy offers by the Ocean Park retailers.
2. Check out the very adorable pandas at Giant Panda Adventure. You'll want to take a video of their gobbling bamboo leaves.
3. Check out the Grand Aquarium at Aqua City.
4. Take the Ocean Express train to The Summit.
5. Ride The Flash, a rollerfast swings like a 360-degree pendulum.
6. Try the awesome view at The Terrace Cafe.
7. Check out the trippy neon colors of jelly fish at Jellyfish Spectacular.
8. Ride The Dragon. The slips and the fin in Wheel.
9. Take the cable car back to Aqua City.
10. Catch Symbiosis and have dinner with the sharks at Neptune's Restaurant after.

Don't be in a rush to claim that 'prize'

From page D3

the drug. The unsupervised use of antibiotics is causing the development of new strains of diseases that are drug-resistant.

The problem is so serious that the theme of this year's World Health Day observance is "Combat drug resistance! Be action today, no cure tomorrow" To raise awareness of what causes antimicrobial resistance and how to counteract the problem.

Send letters to The Consumer Lifestyle Section, Philippine Daily Inquirer, 185 Chino Roces Ave. cor. Marcventa cor. Ingue St., 1234 Makati City, Fax 897-4793-94; or e-mail lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph.

ENTERTAINMENT

Editor Emma G. Nolarte

When children take over the kitchen: Fun! Bid Fit /E4

A flash of Kidlat

Pioneering Pinoy indie to be honored in South Korean film festival

Text and photo by Bayani San Diego Jr.

KIDLAT Tahimik

BAGUIO CITY—Pioneering independent filmmaker Kidlat Tahimik refused to step inside the SM City mall here, where his film "Itakil Yellow atop Edsa ng Daigdigdigan" was shown as part of Sinong Pambansa (which ran from March 28 to 30).

It was just a "matter of principle," he insisted.

SM'08 was nothing short of historic, if not miraculous, that a Kidlat Tahimik movie had found its way to SM, a shining monument to consumerism.

He had nothing against "youth," Tahimik told Inquirer, "but local idols, specifically our sorting showbiz movies, should be encouraged."

Sorting showbiz (one's own imagining), he explained, is "a Kilometer's compact way of framing the world, whether you grow up in Ifugao Milagros Magallanes Village."

He recalled that, as a teacher in UP Diliman, he was bothered because his students' films were filled with the formulaic sex and violence. "They were so used to the clichés that they devoured as small cinemas. They thought it was the only way to tell stories."

Thus, the work of Sinong Pambansa and "regional cinema" has become all the more relevant.

"The world is not waiting for 'Star Wars 20,'" Tahimik said. "The world wants our carving shovels movies."

He related that his famous "Yellow" was just half of his "Stadtlow" epic, "a celluloid collage" chronicling the growing up years of his son, Kidlat de Ivata, during the martial-rumors martial law and post-Edsa years.

"I finished the first half around 1987, but

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A flash of Kidlat

From page E1

I couldn't put an end to the story," Tahimik said. "He kicked out the distance, but the ropes were shooting their tear-colors."

He continued shooting until 1994. "The whole film is divided into chapters that are like the colors of [another kind of] rainbow: clear-to-no gray, powerless black, indigenous brown."

He, too, Kidlat, just a kid in the film's first half, is now 26 years old and a subject of the award-winning docu, "Walking the Walking Journey" (also featured in the Inquirer edition of Sining Pambansang).

Tahimik related that his son was initially hesitant to go into film. "He wouldn't, he didn't want to be under his father's shadow."

He knows that his son would have to go on his own journey and not tread the same path that he did.

"I was hoping he'd pick up my 16-mm camera, which was gathering dust at home," he said, during an interview in his gallery-room, Oh My Gabay "Let's, he's preoccupied back to film."

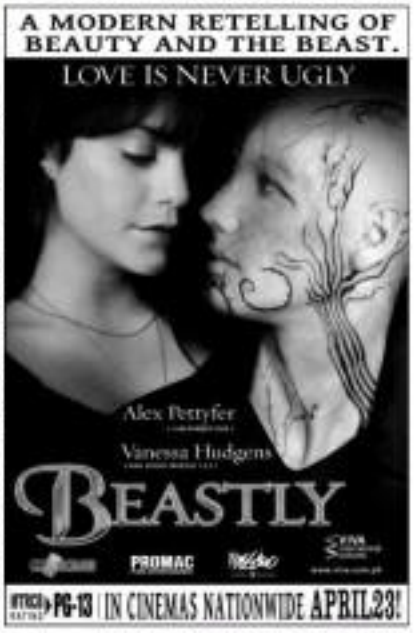
There came the digital revolution. "I came from the Jurassic age [of filmmaking], but since I also shoot with a digital camera," said Tahimik. "Mostly, I'm into video essays and video diaries."

Retrospective

Tahimik will be honored with a retrospective at the 12th Jeonju International Film Festival in South Korea from April 28 to May 8.

On the festival website, he is hailed as "a godfather of Filipino cinema... who has consistently explored Third World issues such as post-colonialism in a provocative and experimental manner."

A book in English and Korean, entitled "Kidlat Tahimik," will also be launched in time for the retro.



MOVIE TIME

GLORIETTA 4

1: RIO (3D)
2: BIG MOMMAS: LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON
3: GNOMEO & JULIET (3D)
4: SENIOR YEAR
5: THE ROOM MATE
6: SOURCE CODE
7: HALL PASS

GREENBELT 1

1: SOURCE CODE

GREENBELT 2

1: BIG MOMMAS: LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON
2: RIO (3D)
3: LIMITLESS
4: GNOMEO & JULIET (3D)
5: SOURCE CODE

ALABANG TOWN CENTER

1: BIG MOMMAS: LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON
2: RIO (3D)
3: GNOMEO & JULIET (3D)
4: HALL PASS
5: SOURCE CODE

AYALA CENTER CEBU

1: BIG MOMMAS: LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON
2: THE ROOM MATE
3: RIO (3D)
4: SWISHED ON THE STREET

MARQUEE

1: BIG MOMMAS: LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON
2: RIO (3D)
3: THE ROOM MATE
4: LIMITLESS

MARKET! MARKET!

1: RIO (3D)
2: THE ROOM MATE
3: CATCH ME IN IN LOVE
4: TEMPORARILY CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
5: TEMPORARILY CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
6: BIG MOMMAS: LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON
7: RESERVED

TRINOMA

1: SENIOR YEAR
2: THE ROOM MATE
3: GNOMEO & JULIET (3D)
4: RIO (3D)
5: SOURCE CODE
6: HALL PASS
7: BIG MOMMAS: LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON

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ADULTS Carmina Villaroel (center), host, and judges GB Ilarlan, Jackie Aog and Montrel Benitez (partly hidden), with "Amazing Cooking Kids" finalists (from L) Patrick Reyes, Bodik Villalobos, Tisha Pulgado, Sarah Gomez, Angelo Rosales, Nicole Levitan, Mika Fortuno, Ian Almadrones, Dinalyn Reyes, Dingdong Legman, Xymon Caballero and Pau Salinas

Certainly not for adults only

GMA 7's new reality show features kids who learned to like cooking by watching their elders

By Jaime Aguanilla
Photos by Rene Handiado

CHEF-IDEN proudly said the fourteen to gobble up Food. But when they go there to cook, whoa!

During recent auditions held at SM Hypermart Ilumo and Fairview for a new GMA 7 reality show, children showed off culinary skills and presented their "signature" dishes—from traditional Pilipino fare such as adobo and kinilaw/ginataan to Mediterranean-style chicken and relleno.

A dozen of them, aged 9 to 13—all of them dreaming of becoming chefs—landed on top of the heap and are now set to compete in "Amazing Cooking Kids."

On March 31, the 12 finalists met the previous chefs and the judges during their first cook-off and taping.

Last week at the press launch, they were asked who they thought were the toughest contenders. Three emerged on top of the heap: Xymon "Xymon" Caballero, 12; Bernard "Bodik" Villalobos, 9, and Patrick Reyes, 12.

Xymon, a freshman at Pangasay High School in Caloocan, says he was inspired by his dad, who works in a coffee shop and a small catering business. Xymon demonstrated his plating skills at the launch.

Bodik is an expert at knives, according to his sweet competitor, who learned to make shao fan (Chinese fried rice), he said, by mixing rice and leftover vegetables. He likes cooking for his three siblings when their parents are away.

Patrick's parents are the owners of Reyes Barbecue. He specialty is pepper lamb steak. He said he got interested in cooking from watching Gordon Ramsay in "Master Chef," a US cooking show.

PAUSE. Dingdong and Ian shower love to improve their fresh salad.

Crowd favorites

Apparent crowd favorites were Bulacan Antonio "Bonie" Levitan, 11, and Orochelle "Dingdong" Legman III, 12.

Bonie said the lessons that he learned cooking from his grandparents, owners of a Chinese restaurant. He recreated tense scene where he experimented in the kitchen alone, and when he finally prepared a meal for his family, including his father, Batangas Vice Gov. Marc Levitan. The boy's specialty is tocino panini with shrimp, silver beans and with a dash of white wine.

Dingdong, a standout for his chopping skills, shows for carving a jack-o-lantern out of a watermelon. He's especially proud of his Chicken adobo sa gata.

Another cute inspired by an elder is JC "Jcrub" Santos, 9, whose dad works in Batanes, a Japanese restaurant.

Bodik Salokpa, 11, learned to cook, like Bonie, by experimenting. He recounted being hungry one day and trying something to eat...he was hooked.

KYMON (left) and Patrick prepare the garnishing for their own salad.

Most impressed

Host Carmina Villaroel, who admitted that she was brave at her TV shows than at cooking, was very impressed. "Off-cam," she said, "I saw everything they cooked. They're all very good!"

Villaroel said she attended the Aptrim Burgoyne Kids Culinary Art Studio in Pasig, but never got to practice professionally. Her own kids, Mavy and Cassy, are attending cooking classes. Husband Zoren is other.

Judges for "Amazing Cooking Kids" are theatrical director of "Quickflex," former "Pyra confessions" and "Intrigue" host chef Jackie Aog-Ilan, and chef GB Ilarlan, vice president of the Philippine Center for Hospitality and Culinary Arts. Every week, they will decide which kid leaves the show.

Asked how the program differed from ABS-CBN's "Junior MasterChef Pinoy edition," culinarily speaking, program manager Jenny Cardona-Reyes said, "Our minds is."

"Amazing Cooking Kids" airs Saturdays, 11:15 a.m., starting April 30, before "Eat Bulaga."

SM Digital Theater North Edsa Hosts the Premiere of "Gnomeo & Juliet"

SM Digital Theater North Edsa is hosting the special advance screening of "Gnomeo & Juliet" today, April 13, 2011. It will be attended by VIPs, the Press, theater industry partners, event partners and other special guests. The said premiere is a collaboration of SM Cinema, Beyond Cinema program where guests are invited to the goings-on of SM Cinema, the largest cinema operator in the country today.

Sets as in Shakespeare's timeless, tragedy "Romeo & Juliet" highlights the heated rivalry between neighbors Mr. Capulet and Miss Montague, who've taken their war on gardening to a whole new level. Their gardens overflow with knick-knack garden gnomes who, when the humans are out of sight, have taken up their respective owner's neighborly behavior. The result has been 10 (or so) years' worth of gnome-on-gnome violence, where gnomes taking a Red from the Red Garden or a Blue from the Blue Garden comes with a host of prejudices. Are most don't understand, yet fail to question.

"Why gnomes?" asks producer Steve Woodworth. "Why not gnomes? The story is world-defining, it's relevant, I think the subject is joyous and vibrant and colorful and it has [a] fun, refreshing antagonist."

Considered by the garden gnomes, it earns [illegible] an extraordinary soundtrack featuring both new songs and classics from the Elton John-Bernie Taupin library. The version offers an ultimate thrill and replacing Shakespeare's tragic conclusion. "I think this is definitely the ending that people always wished from Romeo and Juliet," says Emily Blunt, who voices her voice to Juliet (and, actually, kicked off her career on stage as a more traditional Juliet in the 2002 Chichester Festival). James McAvoy (considering) provides the voice of Gnomeo.

"The theme of the movie is that love can overcome hate, that's universal," adds Woodworth. "It plays to kids pretty well. We aim to entertain people and to send them out the door with something to think about."

But what would Shakespeare think?

"He was a great storyteller," says Woodworth. "I suppose he'd be pretty pleased with that."

Watch it (and all the SM Cinemas and for a more convenient way of getting your tickets), exclusively this release from SM Cinema, the CINEMINDS. Your mobile, your movie ticket. Have your movie tickets delivered to your mobile phone only through www.smcinema.com.

Opening tomorrow, SM Cinemas screens "Rio" in 3D and regular formats. "Gnomeo & Juliet" is distributed by Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures International.

ENTERTAINMENT

THE ULTIMATE FOOD CART BUSINESS SEMINAR
April 15, 2011, 10AM-4PM
For Inq. (02)415-9111 local 503; (02) 9408574

OPENING TODAY

Senior Year

DIRECTED by Arnold Yung; stars LJ Moreno, Dimples Romana, Ina Feleo, Che Ramos, Arnold Reyes, Ruvan Ibarbiro, RJ Ledesma

High school students struggle in the final months before graduation. Graded 'C' by the Cinema Evaluation Board, this indie drama was endorsed by the Department of Education. Part of this year's Asian Digital Competition of the Hong Kong International Film Fest, it will be shown at the Jeonju fest in South Korea this month, too. Opens at Ayala Trivinma and Eluviela 4.

Gnomeo and Juliet

Directed by Kelly Asbury, with the voices of James Mcavoy, Emily Blunt, Michael Caine, Maggie Smith, James Wetherby, Matt Lucas

Blue and red garden gnomes are locked in battle, until a blue boy (Mcavoy) falls for a red girl (Blunt). Now Velcro's Ben Hanks quips: "Try 3Dity! guys!Shakespearean." USA Today's Claudia Puig notes: "A resume gnomer by any other name is still a clunky little figure." Los Angeles Times' Kenneth Turan notes: "Playful, inventive and endearing, this 84-minute epic is smart enough [to] steer clear of the hideous and formulaic."

Big Momma: Like Father, Like Son

Directed by John Whitesell; stars Martin Lawrence, Brandon T. Jackson, Perrie Doubleday, Jessica Lucas, Hotsli Lalicki, Tracy Gomez

Cop Executive Agent undercover with teenage surgeon (Jackson) to an all-girls' school to solve a murder. New York Times' Mike Hale says that it "has characters called 'Some Like It Hot' quite as thoroughly." The Hollywood Reporter's Kirk Honeycutt dismisses it "as an inanimate attempt to revive a franchise, running out of gas." Variety's Joe Leydon agrees: It's "kind of a thing when it sucks in frantic slapstick and tired action-comedy tropes."

Pretty Starlet has two faces

By the Entertainment staff

SEXY A FEW observers wonder how Pretty Starlet, notorious for vampy interviews and prime dress ways, became GF to handsome (and humble, and kind) Beau.

On a shoot, PS was cold toward her co-workers. Feeling superior, she refused to acknowledge underlings. Then BB paid a surprise visit. PS audibly remarked in-so is eating person, calling it re-cryons.

A one-woman Tupperware party!

Closet case

Skeptics still scratch their heads over the rumored romance between Married Actress and Controversial Personality.

They make an unlikely tandem: CP has ventured too to shady characters, while MA cultivates a squeaky-clean public image.

Latest issue is that MA has left Hunky Husband, according to a mole, CP's latest gift apparently sealed the deal for Ms Two-cabinets of cold, hard cash.

Uh-oh.

Diva wars

In spite of her "sweet, cherubic" image, it looks like TF Host 1 is a match to TF Host 2, a demanding diva. The two have apparently forgotten a previous tiff, years have passed since they last crossed swords.

TH01 allegedly introduced Comeback Comedienne to TH02 when they bumped into each other. TH01 exchanged pleasantries with CB but acted like TH1 was invisible.

Strange menage

Suspicious Activity has always been rumored as a lesbian. She is said to have refused and assured Peeny Bunbo, whom she once quarreled with in public.

Those days, SA is reportedly cheating Beautiful Jane who is purportedly involved with Hunky Actor, a closet gay.

What a bizarre triangle they would make!

Expensive indulgence

Here's a fine example of rumsinum chlorine viscosus. Professionals (Pharmakor wanted to abuse it a public place abroad. Sick

Professor willingly coughed up the $15,000 even for the venue. Pricey! But the client were unbiasa n'latch.

After viewing the makers, PP was unhappy and asked for a revision. RP had to say goodbye to another $15,000. No wonder OP is in dire straits now.

Top of the talk shows

For those who missed last weekend's TV gabfests. (And why we are amazed, if we are moved.):

■ JM de Guzman, asked if he's reserving "Mein Si Pian" zodiac Lauren Young: "Di ngayon walako nyan, Kuha ingnan outer!" (Di na ngayon kuya.)

■ IC Connexion, asked if there's unspoken between her and boyf-turn Pido Dya-mat: "It's not tampo. It's more of parang hindi to-mention-nakikuri 'yung ibang mindset. Di Pido! ... I've never been with a guy who's so married in his work. I haven't seen him in a month ... ako na lang pa 'yung unmarried ... Siyaki ko na 'to si-turuyo ... I would love to see you ... as yourself! ... stripped down in the raw ... hindi Pido Dyocad, hindi artista, hindi producers ... 'yung pinaka-sacred na ... 'yung naiuwi-uwian ko na ibang tao-lugar." Upon host, no-hearth na 'yung ta-na-conversasyo.)

■ Kris regains on marrying again: "Marerning remarkit na pinagdadaanan ang couple na nagdi-divorce ... so para hindi na mauli, hoong ka na lang ikuyad ulit." (Apu.)

■ Pokwang on dealing with problems: "Hanggat kaya, aasasikdan ko ... kapag di ko na kaya, tiyak ko na lang ... para ayoko pre-nagdadamdam akosako." (Sky she heads!)

■ Angel Locsin on Phil Younghusband meeting her family for the first time: "Dahil dyakey Phil!), Kung gusto nyong makipagkita, pumunta ka sa bahay ko, kausapin mo 'yung pamilya ko, magsuot saan kung ano 'yung mangyayari. Ito nandun lahat ng pamilya ko, nga dadagan ko, upon dumating siya nag-iisa. Ang laking kaway niya! Pero on-approciate ko 'yun. Mangyang siya kasi kasama niya yung family-ko." (Ok nga!)

■ Lovi Poe on Brazilian Japanese Hideo ski possible courting her: "I don't have time for love anymore—not yet, at least!" (At least while we know who is serving time?)

NOÉ Allen Policarpio, Contributor

ASHAMED OF THOSE DARK UNDER-ARMS?

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3. Upon completion of stickers, customer must surrender a filled up Seafood Selections card to redeem a Chicken All-You-Can gift certificate.
4. Stickers may be obtained from March 8 to April 30, 2011.
5. Redemption of Chicken-All-You-Can gift certificates will be from March 8 to June 30, 2011 but will be valid for 1 year from redemption date.
6. Promo runs from March 8 to April 30, 2011, valid for dine-in and take-out orders only and cannot be redeemed in conjunction with other promos or discounts.

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BABY BLUES BY JERRY SCOTT

KIKO MACHINE BY PAWIS ABERIN

BEN BY DANIEL SHELTON

HUTTS

SHERMAN'S LAGOON BY JIM TOOMEY

DUSTIN BY STEVE KELLEY AND JEFF PARKER

TULDOK BY MARA COLL

HOROSCOPE

BY FRANCES DRAKE

TOO SOME TOUT! You are in an excellent position to make a good impression on someone who is important to you. You may be approached and praised, which is why extra caution is in order. Be modest and don't boast about your personal life even though you are outspoken in the your shoes. More information can be found at www.facebook.com/pages/Tuldok/

Birthdays of this Monday: actor Gabriel Valdez, psychiatrist Anna Abalos, musician Ramon Ayala.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) This is a mixed, turbulent day for you. Keep in touch with others. Enjoy sharing ideas with children. Enjoy expressing your views and ideas.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) This is the perfect day to get a lot of work done. Make the going over for quick and easy. Some gatherings will be talked and will of low interest to you. Be cool and try to party.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You can be represented today if you are a writer, teacher, actor or in sales. Be aware your opinions will help you. Don't be rushed and be prepared. Who could resist you?

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Business and commerce are favored today. Don't be afraid to think big. Your extra-intuitive hunch this is likely.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) You have a visit to your new making a home repair to other people. Enjoy today's energy, which could be a bit unsettling. Be careful with your money.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) Romance is getting somewhat serious, in part, because you believe you will be successful. Just be careful not to get too carried away with your feelings. Be realistic and aware when to hold on what you want.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) An exact of going activities can go a long way. Take opportunity to socialize, exchange ideas, go out to dinner — even sports. Enjoy communicating with others. Your positive attitude will help you to get ahead.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You have a strong impression on others today, especially female persons, friends and kids. You are in an intense, mood. Be careful not to overdo things.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Your enthusiasm about today's activities or something being in the air, probably or flights of fancy will make you very lucky. Be creative. Do something different!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) You could be on the receiving end of someone's generosity today. It's a good day to play. You're feeling sleepy. Important decisions are best made early or the day or in the late afternoon.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) Communication with partners and close friends will be pleasant and friendly today. You don't have to be aware, although they might not. Balance the concerns of others.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) You could be in an exceptional mood today. Your ideas and suggestions are appreciated. Be open to others' suggestions. Be flexible with other activities or people for ideas will be particularly positive. Look for ways to boost your income. Be sure to pursue it's unfolding possible!

CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Fill the grid so that every row, every column and every 3×3 box contains the digits 1 to 9. For more programs or www.sudoku.com

Answer to previous puzzle

1	3	2	5	4	8	9	6	7
5	4	8	7	6	9	2	3	1
9	6	7	3	2	1	5	4	8
2	8	9	1	3	6	4	7	5
3	7	1	4	5	2	8	9	6
6	5	4	9	8	7	3	1	2
8	1	3	6	7	5	9	2	4
4	9	5	2	1	3	7	8	9
7	2	6	8	9	4	1	5	3

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

			2	8				
			4		1	3		
				7	3			
4	6	9			5	7		
7			6			9	3	
	2			1	7	6		4
	5							3
		7						8
			8	5	6	2	4	

Difficulty Level ★★★

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1 Part of the basic garment
6 Fashion designer
11 Sounding machine
14 Be a household name
15 Fishing
16 To ___ make no apologies
17 "Commander-in-chief" org.
18 Tweaks a video
19 Kind of surgeon
20 Weather forecast
21 Hong Kong
23 Kind of warning
25 Opposite
27 Electronic letter
28 Kind of bean or vacation
29 Kind of season
30 Kind of ___ (Mexican dish)
31 Entertainment unit
33 Kind of cut
34 Fashion purse
35 Sports column
36 Cola
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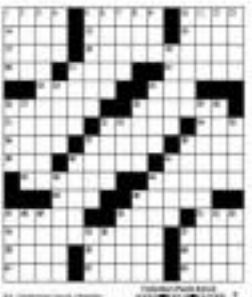
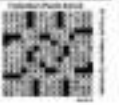




Woody Allen, Martin Scorsese lead tributes to Sidney Lumet

NEW YORK—Woody Allen and Martin Scorsese led the tributes in the film world mourned on Sunday the loss of director Sidney Lumet, 86, a master filmmaker identified strongly with his beloved city, New York.

Lumet, who died on Saturday from cancer, was nominated four times for best director Academy Award, with "Dog Day Afternoon" and "Network" numbering among his more than 40 movies.

"He will definitely the quintessential NY filmmaker, although ironically his finest film, 'The Hill,' was shot elsewhere," Allen said in a statement released to Entertainment Weekly.

Lumet, who burst onto the scene at age 33 with "12 Angry Men" in 1957, was eventually rewarded for a career that spanned five decades with an honorary Oscar in 2005.

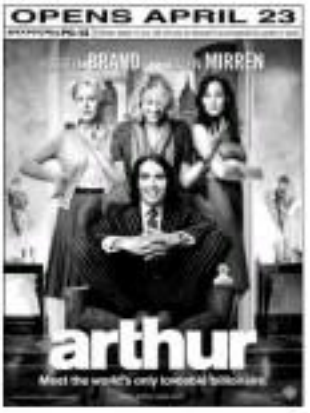
He may be best remembered for directing "Network," the poignant 1976 drama about American media.

"He had a unique gift with actors, an ensemble dynamic leading for drama, and a powerful sense of place," said fellow New York filmmaker Martin Scorsese.

Al Pacino, who starred in the farcical bank robbery film "Dog Day Afternoon" as well as Lumet's gritty police drama "Serpico," said: "He leaves a great legacy but more than that, to the people close to him, he will remain the most confident of humans and the kindest man I have ever known."

Directors' Guild of America president Taylor Hackford said: "Future generations of filmmakers will look to Sidney's work for guidance and inspiration, but there will never be another who comes close to him."

Spike Lee penned on Twitter: "We all lost a master filmmaker, the great Sidney Lumet. There could have been no inside man without his superb 'Dog Day Afternoon.'" AFP



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Diana duped

DIANA MENESES suspects that someone who used to be close to her is behind the rat evasion charges she is now facing. "I was assured that my finances were being taken care of," she explained. "I guess I trusted the wrong people. But I am taking full responsibility and not running away from my obligations."

Looks like honesty is something running in her life right now. Although she won't admit it, I heard from a mutual friend that the jay she's dating has a live in GF.

Explanation needed

Many of the beer parties I've attended were set up by a company called Party Herbs. Their client base is eccentrics. Only may well be the concierge's top party organizer.

But I heard that the company left one of its business partners holding an empty bag. Allegedly, after receiving a large business contract (thanks to the efforts of the partner), Party Herbs conveniently forgot about previously agreed obligations. I really hope there's a good explanation for this, because word travels fast in the circuit. Or is the party over?

High spirits

Birthday boy Richard Gomez was in high spirits when DJ Mo-ved 3 times toward him for "Papasaya" in Persona Gaita said in jest, "Look at these older women matching us from afar. See na ang market ko tayuan. Mga dambuhala eh."

Hey, no offense. The level of Gomez's charm is directly proportional to his age, and women of all ages love to mention guys still sexual at the right of him. He's off to Guam with Lucy and Juliana for a belated birthday celebration. "Hopefully makakuha na kami ni Lucy dun," he said, laughing. "Sinabihan pressure ng when we are asked kailan namin asundan si Juliana, who's already 35."

Doesn't Lucy get jealous of his kissing scenes in "Naglalayag Ba Lalaki?"

"I'm lucky that my wife is not the jealous type, dadalo ako sa maders ng mga anak ko," he says.

The Gomezes truly redefine showbiz relationships.

Partying at Seventh High

Bruno Mars' after-concert party was at trendy's newest and poshiest hangout, Seventh High on Batchara Street at the Fort. The 7th Ave singing sensation gamely greeted every fan at his table personally.

Check out The Lounge (at the club's 22nd floor), a relaxing alternative to the mainstream selections in the vicinity. On non-concert nights, one can enjoy the music of a pianist and soloist; on other nights, a violinist or a saxophonist joins as well. Open: 5:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. Tuesdays to Thursdays, 5:00 p.m. to 3:00 a.m. Fridays and Saturdays.

Nathalie performances now call it home. It's fun becoming the free dinner and event after-hours hangout of celebrities and society figures.

A film about mishaps

Grace Ejercito Poe and Bimby Aquino (Cesar Aquino) are newlyweds who inherit a condominium unit from Bimby's deceased father. As they start living there, they are faced with a series of mishaps and misfortunes since it's built on a haunted, or a cemetery-ey of bays roads which is believed to be unlucky.

Soon they learn that they are expecting a baby but the blessing turns out to be a curse. Unravel the mystery when you watch "Thinlok," opening in theaters on May 4.

Oops

Erratum: Marlon Ondinelli's date at Bruno Mars' concert was not Maja Salvador, as Melissa Ricks, as I wrote in my last column. I actually missed the concert. A friend who was there got their identities mixed up. My apologies to all three, and most subject.

E-mail: secretsgtkols.shangrila@yahoo.com

'Overlooked Films,' Part 2

SESSION 2 of the "Overlooked Films, Underrated Directors" series starts this Saturday at the Cultural Center of the Philippines' Tanghalang Manuel Conde, presented by the CCP in cooperation with the Society of Filipino Archivists for Film (Sinfil).

Screenings will be held every second Saturday (mostly) until August. Saturday's event is a tribute to the late Hammy Sotto, founding president of Sinfil, featuring his documentaries on Philippine cinema. The rest of the series: Bing "Beliefs of the Dropout" by Celso Ad. Castillo; Jose, "Ganag Bendo" by Richard Melendez; Joel, "Tribute to Bonifacio Perez"; Augusto, "Pesudo Ironclave" by Romeo Evelio. Screenings at 2 and 5 p.m. Call 8321125.

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BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

INVITATION TO BID

Project/ Bid No.	Name of Project	Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC)	Bid Bond
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Bidding documents are available at the BAC Secretariat and may be purchased upon payment of Php [illegible] per set.

Bidders should have completed within [illegible] years from date of bid opening a contract similar to the Project. The description of an eligible bidder is contained in the Bidding documents, particularly, in Section III thereof.

Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using a non-discretionary "pass/fail" criterion as specified in the Revised Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act (RA) 9184, otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act".

Bidders should comply with the requirements of the Bidding Documents and submit their bids on or before [illegible]. Late bids shall not be accepted.

All bids must be accompanied by a bid security in any of the acceptable forms and in the amount stated in the Bid Data Sheet.

The Bidding Documents may be purchased from the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee for the Bidding Documents in the amount of [illegible].

The Procuring Entity reserves the right to reject any and all bids, declare a failure of bidding, or not award the contract at any time prior to contract award in accordance with Section 41 of RA 9184 and its IRR, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

[illegible]
Chairman
BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID
Republic of the Philippines
Procurement of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) System for AFP Retirement and Separation Benefits System (AFP RSBS)

1. The **AFP RETIREMENT AND SEPARATION BENEFITS SYSTEM (AFPRSBS)**, through the Corporate Budget for the contract approved by the AFPRSBS Board of Trustees, intends to apply the sum of **[illegible]** being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to cover the cost of the Project. Bids received in excess of the ABC shall automatically be rejected at the opening.
2. The **AFPRSBS** now invites duly from eligible bidders for the aforementioned procurement. The description of an eligible bidder is contained in Section II of the Bidding Documents, viz:
3. Interested bidders may obtain further information from **AFPRSBS** and inspect the bidding documents at the address given below during office hours from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.
4. Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary "pass/fail" criterion as specified in the Revised Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act (RA) 9184, otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act". Bidding is restricted to Filipino citizens/ sole proprietorships, partnerships, or organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to RA 5183 and subject to Commonwealth Act 138.
5. A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders on April 13, 2011 to April 26, 2011 from the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee for the Bidding Documents in the amount of Six Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (Php 6,500.00).

   It may also be downloaded free of charge from the website of the Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System (PhilGEPS) and the website of the Procuring Entity, provided that Bidders shall pay the non-refundable fee for the Bidding Documents not later than the submission of their bids.
6. The Pre-Bidding Conference shall be held on the date Conference on April 26, 2011 10:00 AM at Division Library Hall, which shall be open only to all interested parties who have purchased the Bidding Documents.
7. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before May 3, 2011 @ 10:00 AM. All Bids must be accompanied by a bid security in any of the acceptable forms and in the amount stated in ITB Clause.

   Bid opening shall be on May 3, 2011 10:00 AM in Division Library Hall. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' authorized representatives who chose to attend at the address below. Late bids shall not be accepted.
8. The Pangasinan Division Procurement Committee has the right to accept or reject any bid, to annul the Bidding process, and to reject all bids at any time prior to contract award without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

(Sgd.) **EDWARD D. SALDIVAR, JR.**
BAC Chairperson

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PANGASINAN DIVISION II
Urdaneta City, Province of Pangasinan
Tel # 075-568-2656 / Fax 075-568-4008

INVITATION TO BID
SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF SCHOOL FURNITURE

1. The Department of Education, Pangasinan Division II, through the Republic Act No. 9970 – Fiscal Year 2010 intends to apply the sum of Two Million Five Hundred Eighty Three Thousand Two Hundred Sixty Seven Pesos (Php 2,583,267.00) being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to payments under the Contract for Supply and Delivery of School Furniture. Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at bid opening.
2. The Pangasinan Division II now invites bids for Supply and Delivery of School Furniture in Elementary and Secondary Schools of various schools in Pangasinan Division II (Elementary Table-1 Chairs/ 6,000 sets and Secondary Armchairs – 2,421 pcs.). Delivery of the Goods is required within 120 calendar days. Bidders should have completed within five (5) years from the date of submission and receipt of bids, a contract similar to the Project. The description of an eligible bidder is contained in the Bidding Documents, particularly, in Section II thereof.
3. Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using a non-discretionary "pass/fail" criterion as specified in the Revised Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act (RA) 9184, otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act". Bidding is restricted to Filipino citizens/ sole proprietorships, partnerships, or organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to RA 5183 and subject to Commonwealth Act 138.
4. A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders on April 13, 2011 to April 26, 2011 from the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee for the Bidding Documents in the amount of Six Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (Php 6,500.00).

   It may also be downloaded free of charge from the website of the Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System (PhilGEPS) and the website of the Procuring Entity, provided that Bidders shall pay the non-refundable fee for the Bidding Documents not later than the submission of their bids.
5. The Pangasinan Division II will hold a Pre-Bid Conference on April 26, 2011 10:00 AM at Division Library Hall, which shall be open only to all interested parties who have purchased the Bidding Documents.
6. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before May 3, 2011 @ 10:00 AM. All Bids must be accompanied by a bid security in any of the acceptable forms and in the amount stated in ITB Clause.

   Bid opening shall be on May 3, 2011 10:00 AM in Division Library Hall. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' authorized representatives who chose to attend at the address below. Late bids shall not be accepted.
7. The Pangasinan Division Procurement Committee has the right to accept or reject any bid, to annul the Bidding process, and to reject all bids at any time prior to contract award without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

(Sgd.) **EDWARD D. SALDIVAR, JR.**
BAC Chairperson

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT
Regional Office No. IV-A
#1 Andrew Avenue, A. Bonifacio, Caloocan City
Telefax Nos.: (02) 345-0202
April 11, 2011

NOTICE OF FILING OF APPLICATION FOR ALIEN EMPLOYMENT PERMIT (AEP)

Notice is hereby given that the following corporate/employers have filed with this Regional Office applications to retain Employment Permits:

	Name and Address of Company/ Employer	Name and Citizenship of Foreign National	Position and Brief Description of Function
1.	**PAMI-AYNIMEL INC.** PEZA, Rosario, Cavite	Mr. Kyung Hee Park/ Korean	Coding Manager
2.	**LUZAGRO INTERNATIONAL, INC.** CFP Bldg. Subic, Calamba City	Mr. Dong Geun Kim/ Korean	Director/ CEO/ Project Manager
3.	**SEN 2 SOURCES PHILIPPINES, INC.** Laguna Technopark, Binan, Laguna	Mr. Koji Nakanishi/ Japanese	Department Manager
4.	**KIMTAEG KOREA IT DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION** Aznar Brgy. Subic, cor Rizal, Laguna	Mr. Jeong Soo Kim/ Korean	Manager
5.	**CAMPO MOLDING AND ASSEMBLY NEGROS INC.** CFP Subic, Calamba City	Mr. Mauro Mitsuo/ Japanese	Technical Site Director/ Manager

If you have any information/objection in the above mentioned applications please communicate with the Regional Director.

ATTY. RICARDO S. MARTINEZ SR. CESO II
Regional Director

To avail of free job clinics, vacancies and employment guidance services, call the nearest Public Employment Service Office (PESO) in city or municipality.

Need a job?
Read
JOB
Inquirer
every Sunday

For your Classified Ads requirements, call our Classifieds Advertising Hotlines:

Makati Office
Trunkline 897-0000 ext. 104, 594 & 595 / Manila 897-0000 - 99 local
897 Antonio Arnaiz, Makati Ave., Makati City
(P.V.M.C.) – Globe: 893-0575 / 813-4961
81 Anthony Rd., Brgy. Mauway, Pinklawa, Mandaluyong City
897-0000 / 411-1500 / Fax 813-0975
SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City
Ground Floor, Main Lobby / Fax 635-0574
Sun Residences, Cebu Brgy., 6000 Cebu City, Philippines
(in front of National Library)
Trunkline 255-9100 loc. 115 to 150 / Manila 528-6273
Mandaluyong Office
Metro Car Care Center (Property Mercon Highway, Brgy. Mauway)
Antipolo City (Vermont Park Subd. across Ace 2)
Tel. 2-3104 / 27-1441 / 27-1442 / 0927-5620066 /
email address: [illegible]@gmail.com
Cabanatuan Branch
Proprietor: M. Inocencio S. Espiritu – Authority/Office: Luzon's Publishing & Services, Inc.
Address: Rm 104 Inocencio Complex Plaza (Pinanan Brgy.) Cabanatuan St. cor. Cabanatuan St., Valenzuela, Manila
Manila Branch – Kalaw Branch (under the supervision of Ms. Belen Gozo)
Tel. Nos. 521-4702 / 525-7580
Bacolod Branch
Proprietor: Ms. Marlene Diaz
Satellite Office – Iloilo Newspaper Services
Address: 73 Fernandez Bldg. A. Rodriguez St., Jaro, Iloilo City
Bacolod Branch – Magazine Branch (under the supervision of Ms. Joy Tabuso)
Tel. Nos. 07-1475 / 0918-5049078

MAKE YOUR CAREER A BEAUTIFUL JOURNEY.

For more than 150 years, men and women of true stature have shaped the very spirit of successful businesses that leading men the world over. With us, your career is a journey filled with excitement and constant growth and change. There is no better way to make your mark. Because, behind a world class brand, there stands a unique team. Make your future worthy of it. Become that man.

FINANCE MANAGER

We are seeking a dynamic individual to manage the financial aspects of our operations in the Philippines.

The Finance Manager is in charge of managing the finance and accounting functions including monitoring the internal control systems, business planning and advising the company's best financial interests.

Ideal candidate must have a Bachelor's Degree in Finance, Economics, Accounting or related discipline together with a minimum of seven (7) years work experience, preferably with a multinational firm.

In addition, strong interpersonal and communication skills along with Management skills with proven competence and leadership skills are a must.

We invite you to submit your resume via email to hrflg@louisvuitton by April 20, 2011 (a must). All inquiries will be handled with strict confidence.

We offer the career, training and mobility opportunities of a major international Group, as well as an attractive compensation and age.

Find all career opportunities on www.louisvuitton.com

LOUIS VUITTON

GRACE TO BE BORN, Inc.

A Catholic pro-life ministry committed to saving the unborn from abortion and a birthday home for pregnant mothers in crisis, with shelter in Pasig, philippines, urgently needs a registered

SOCIAL WORKER

- Female, with valid SW license
- 21-45 years old, 2 years experience minimum
- Proficient in writing case studies, reports, etc.
- Will do client assessments and counseling skills
- Possesses with DSWD rules and regulations
- Please state personal (pro-) (con-) salary

Qualified candidates may submit their resume and photos to:
[illegible]@gmail.com

boi BOARD OF INVESTMENTS dti

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that **KENWICH DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION** (Kenwich) is applying for registration with the Board of Investments (BOI) as a Developer of Low-Cost Mass Housing Project (**Villa Cielito (B Subdivision)**) on a non-pioneer status with capacity of 101 units and with production site located at Tangub, Misamis Occ.

Any person with valid objections on the above-mentioned project may file his/her objection in writing, under oath, with the BOI within three (3) days from the date of this publication.

(Sgd.) **GUILLERMO S. LAGDAMEON**
Director
Project Evaluation and Registration Department

boi BOARD OF INVESTMENTS dti

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(Sgd.) **GUILLERMO S. LAGDAMEON**
Director
Project Evaluation and Registration Department

DBP Development Bank of the Philippines

INVITATION TO BID

The Development Bank of the Philippines will receive sealed bids on CASH BASIS and AS IS, WHERE IS BASIS as April 21, 2011 at Administrative, 7/F Bldg. John Phillips Penthouse, DBP Head Office, Sen. Gil Puyat Ave. cor. Makati Ave., Makati City for the following properties:

CODE NO.	DESCRIPTION	AREA (SQ.M.)	LOCATION	MINIMUM BID (Php)
REAL ESTATE				
		BULACAN		
LB-001	Residential lot; TCT No. T-49001	1,000	Poblacion, Guiguinto	380,000.00
		CAGAYAN		
LB-002	Residential/commercial lot; (PCT No. P-16006) with bldg. & other improvements; a/	208	Brgy Annafunan, Lallo	1,008,000.00
LB-003	Right (to adjoining) commercial lot; (PCT No. T-16008) w/ 3 storey bldg. & other improvements; a/	3,414.4	Aparri National Road, Centro Norte, Lallo	7,686,000.00
		CAVITE		
LB-004	Residential lot; TCT No. T-30800 with bldg. a/	90	Brgy. Tejero, Rosario City	1,080,000.00
LB-005	Residential lot; TCT No. T-30807 with bldg. & other improvements; a/	600	Brgy. Tejero, Rosario City	1,248,000.00
		CEBU		
LB-006	Two (2) adjoining residential/commercial lots; (CCT Nos. 066-766 and 066-2008) with buildings & other improvements; a/	1,200	Nicanor St., San Antonio Village II, Lapu-Lapu City	10,140,000.00
LB-007	Farmer agricultural lot; (CCT No. 61-2003)	34,546	Brgy. Montreal, Talisay	138,000.00
LB-008	Farmer agricultural lot; (CCT No. 61-2004)	23,545	Brgy. Biasan, Talisay	94,000.00
LB-009	Farmer agricultural lot; (CCT No. 61-2005)	23,545	Brgy. Biasan, Talisay	94,000.00
LB-010	Residential lot; (CCT No. 061-2008) with bldg. a/	1,000	Brgy. Poblacion, Carmen	1,200,000.00
LB-011	Residential lot; (CCT No. 061-2009) with bldg. a/	1,000	Brgy. Poblacion, Carmen	1,200,000.00
		EASTERN SAMAR		
LB-012	Residential lot; (TCT No. 00-2010-000288) with bldg. a/	878.8	Brgy. San Isidro, San Julian	790,920.00
LB-013	Agricultural lot; (CCT No. 1082-2)	1,112	Cam-eyed, Guiuliang, Borongan	16,680.00
LB-014	Agricultural lot; (CCT No. 1220-2)	10,197	Brgy. San Gabriel, Borongan	229,500.00
LB-015	Agricultural lot; (CCT No. 1446-2)	10,197	Brgy. San Gabriel, Borongan	229,500.00
LB-016	Agricultural lot; (CCT No. 1-2-10-2)	1,100	Brgy. Tabunoc, Borongan	16,500.00
LB-017	Agricultural lot; (CCT No. 1-2-11-2)	1,100	Brgy. Tabunoc, Borongan	16,500.00
LB-018	Residential lot; (CCT No. 2-2-2-2) with bldg. a/	120	Brgy. Buenavista, Lalawigan	180,000.00
LB-019	Agricultural lot; (CCT No. 2-2-3-2)	1,100	Brgy. Bato, Borongan	16,500.00
LB-020	Agricultural lot; (CCT No. 2-2-4-2)	1,100	Brgy. Bato, Borongan	16,500.00
LB-021	Agricultural lot; (CCT No. 2-2-5-2)	1,100	Brgy. Bato, Borongan	16,500.00
LB-022	Agricultural lot; (CCT No. 2-2-6-2)	1,100	Brgy. Bato, Borongan	16,500.00
LB-023	Agricultural lot; (CCT No. 2-2-7-2)	1,100	Brgy. Bato, Borongan	16,500.00
LB-024	Agricultural lot; (CCT No. 2-2-8-2)	1,100	Brgy. Bato, Borongan	16,500.00
LB-025	Agricultural lot; (CCT No. 2-2-9-2)	1,100	Brgy. Bato, Borongan	16,500.00
LB-026	Agricultural lot; (CCT No. 2-2-10-2)	1,100	Brgy. Bato, Borongan	16,500.00
LB-027	Agricultural lot; (CCT No. 2-2-11-2)	1,100	Brgy. Bato, Borongan	16,500.00
LB-028	Agricultural lot; (CCT No. 2-2-12-2)	1,100	Brgy. Bato, Borongan	16,500.00
LB-029	Agricultural lot; (CCT No. 2-2-13-2)	1,100	Brgy. Bato, Borongan	16,500.00
LB-030	Agricultural lot; (CCT No. 2-2-14-2)	1,100	Brgy. Bato, Borongan	16,500.00
LB-031	Agricultural lot; (CCT No. 2-2-15-2)	1,100	Brgy. Bato, Borongan	16,500.00
LB-032	Agricultural lot; (CCT No. 2-2-16-2)	1,100	Brgy. Bato, Borongan	16,500.00
LB-033	Agricultural lot; (CCT No. 2-2-17-2)	1,100	Brgy. Bato, Borongan	16,500.00
LB-034	Agricultural lot; (CCT No. 2-2-18-2)	1,100	Brgy. Bato, Borongan	16,500.00
LB-035	Agricultural lot; (CCT No. 2-2-19-2)	1,100	Brgy. Bato, Borongan	16,500.00
LB-036	Agricultural lot; (CCT No. 2-2-20-2)	1,100	Brgy. Bato, Borongan	16,500.00
		ILOCOS NORTE		
LB-037	Residential/commercial lot; (TCT No. 021-2010000178) with bldgs. & other improvements;	748	Brgy. 1, San Lorenzo, Laoag City	1,347,000.00
		ILOILO		
LB-038	Residential lot; (TCT No. T-176172)	120	Lanipao Subd., Brgy. Tabucbuc, Oton	96,000.00
LB-039	Residential lot; (TCT No. T-176173)	120	Lanipao Subd., Brgy. Tabucbuc, Oton	96,000.00
LB-040	Residential lot; (TCT No. T-176174)	120	Lanipao Subd., Brgy. Tabucbuc, Oton	96,000.00
LB-041	Residential lot; (TCT No. T-176175)	120	Lanipao Subd., Brgy. Tabucbuc, Oton	96,000.00
LB-042	Residential lot; (TCT No. T-176176)	120	Lanipao Subd., Brgy. Tabucbuc, Oton	96,000.00
LB-043	Residential lot; (TCT No. T-176177)	120	Lanipao Subd., Brgy. Tabucbuc, Oton	96,000.00
LB-044	Residential lot; (TCT No. T-176178)	120	Lanipao Subd., Brgy. Tabucbuc, Oton	96,000.00
LB-045	Residential lot; (TCT No. T-176179)	120	Lanipao Subd., Brgy. Tabucbuc, Oton	96,000.00
LB-046	Residential lot; (TCT No. T-176180)	120	Lanipao Subd., Brgy. Tabucbuc, Oton	96,000.00
		ISABELA		
LB-047	Residential lot; (TCT No. T-140738)	180	Lucia A. San Pedro, Cauayan City	270,000.00
LB-048	Residential lot; (TCT No. 04-04-010-0008)	600	San Dominggo, Quirino	180,000.00
LB-049	Two (2) adjoining residential/commercial lots; (TCT Nos. T-55-2010-000011 and T-55-2011-000012) with buildings & other improvements; a/	83.29	Apo Delfin Alvarez	5,744,000.00
LB-050	Agricultural lot; (CCT No. T-177470) a/	7,570	Andaquian, Delfin Albano	181,680.00
LB-051	Agricultural lot; (CCT No. T-181000) a/	750	Lot 1, Block 11, Cabatuan St., Ilagan	270,000.00
		KALINGA		
LB-052	Two (2) adjoining residential lots with one (1) duplex (TCT Nos. 034-387 registered in person) a/	1,200	San Juan, Tabuk	1,872,000.00
LB-053	Agricultural lot; (CCT No. 196-06) a/	5,000	Dacalan, Tabuk	1,350,000.00
		LA UNION		
LB-054	Residential lot; (TCT No. T-41595) with bldgs. & misc. a/	240	Lot 16, Block 7, Montemar Subd., B Rosa, San Juan	1,296,000.00
		LAGUNA		
LB-055	Industrial lot; (TCT No. 013990) with factory bldgs. & other improvements; a/	34,284	Progressive Industrial Park, Canlubang Industrial Park 1, Canlubang, Calamba City	57,240,000.00
		LEYTE		
LB-056	Vacant residential lot; (TCT No. T-56010); a/	1,204	Lot 16, T-54-F-4, Brgy. Maharlika, Tacloban City	912,000.00
LB-057	Agricultural lot; (CCT No. T-56005);	3,191	Brgy. San Vicente and Sto. Ellena, Ipapa	1,047,750.00
LB-058	Agricultural lot; (CCT No. T-56006) with bldg. a/	897	Brgy. San Vicente and Sto. Ellena, Ipapa	748,700.00
		MAGUINDANAO		
LB-059	Residential lot; (TCT No. T-7977-R); a/	500	Lot No. 2553-C-1, A.F. Pedro Subdv., Brgy. Tangal, Isulan	300,000.00
LB-060	Residential lot; (TCT No. T-9574-R); a/	600	Lot No. 2553-A-1-A, Atty. Pedro Rosas, Brgy. Tangal, Isulan	420,000.00
LB-061	Vacant residential lot; (PCT No. T-10-7976); a/	4,491	Poblacion, Brgy. Kapingkong, Matanog, Maguindanao	1,348,140.00
LB-062	Residential lot; (TCT No. T-2-2012) with bldg. & bmg; a/	216	Lot No. 1, Block 2, Amado Subd., Brgy. Tangal, Isulan	302,760.00
		NORTHERN SAMAR		
LB-063	Residential lot; (TCT No. T-19511) with bldg., improvements;	1,027	Vicinidad Apiang, Brgy. Dangcalan, Catarman	1,715,000.00
LB-064	Residential lot; (TCT No. 00-2010-000408)	278	Vicinidad Apiang, Brgy. Antonio Arias, Catarman	57,000.00
LB-065	Residential lot; (TCT No. 00-2010-000409) with bldg.	600	Sto. Dominggo, Cor. San Fernando Sts., Brgy. Poblacion, Catarman	1,200,000.00
LB-066	Two (2) adjacent commercial lots; (TCT No. 13486) and a residential lot; (TCT No. 13487) with bldgs./duplex units and townhouses & improvements; a/	10,179	No. 1 Bonifacio Boulevard, Catarman	11,124,000.00
LB-067	Commercial lot; (TCT No. T-13502) with bldgs. & other improvements;	3,900	Brgy. Dangcalan, Catarman	12,240,000.00
		PAMPANGA		
LB-068	Agricultural lot; (TCT No. T-143201-a)	28,300	Sto. Rosario-ng, Calumpit, Bulacan	10,000,000.00
LB-069	Agricultural lot; (PCT No. T-143206) with improvements;	51,718	Sto. Rosario-ng, Calumpit, Bulacan	14,071,000.00
		ORIENTAL MINDORO		
LB-070	Residential lot; (TCT No. T-13515) with bldg. a/	300	Poblacion 2nd Road, Villa Pesquera, Pinamalayan	900,000.00
		PALAWAN		
LB-071	Residential lot; (TCT No. T-13164) with bldg. & other improvements;	578	Brgy. Liminangcong, Balabac	3,768,750.00
		RIZAL		
LB-072	Two (2) adjoining residential lots; (TCT Nos. T-69000 and T-69001) with building; a/	1,000	Lots 11-A, 11-B, T. Bautista St., Sun Valley Park, Brgy. San Juan, Cainta	1,320,000.00
		SOUTHERN LEYTE		
LB-073	Agricultural lot; (CCT No. 24-06);	500	Brgy. Pintuyan, Maasin City	90,000.00
LB-074	Residential lot; (CCT No. 1944);	3,600	Brgy. Green, Maasin City	288,000.00
LB-075	Residential lot; (CCT No. 24-2002-0422) with bldg.	672	Brgy. Canturia, Sogod	672,000.00
		SULTAN KUDARAT		
LB-076 C	Vacant Lot/Overhead Water Tank		Barrio Poblacion, Sto. Niño - E. Ortigas Avenue Extension, Isabela, Basilan	60,000.00
LB-077 C	Two (2) units occupied Compound Administrative Condominium with electric meter		Barrio Poblacion, Sto. Niño - E. Ortigas Avenue Extension, Isabela, Basilan	60,000.00
LB-078 C	50 hectare rice grain operation consisting of processing complex/rice mill plant, gymnasium, conference, cafeteria, storehouse/ water pump, generator, rice dryer, warehouse, pollution control, fire station, dormitory, medical clinic, and fitness center; six (6) units of residential bungalow type housing, (WATER LEVEL, perimeter fence, capacity of 45 liters/ min.) with Booster/Power Generator, SWIMMING, various divertissement, farm and fishponds area; six (6) units split type and window type air conditioners		Calamba Ongkot Kot, Pilot 6, Old Storage, Mohaimina Highway, Brgy. Rizal, Tacurong/ Makilala, Cotabato City	431,500.00
LB-079 C	Vacant Lot		DBP Warehouse, Doña Soledad Compound, Poblacion City	152,100.00
LB-080 C	Two (2) Lots Tractor Shed, (Isolate), 70 Sq.m cap.		DBP Warehouse, Doña Soledad Compound, Poblacion City	105,000.00
LB-081 C	One (1) unit Center Air Conditioner, Package Type, 2 ETR with air ducted outstanding unit air handling units		DBP Warehouse, Doña Soledad Compound, Poblacion City	5,000.00
LB-082 C	One (1) unit Residential Bungalow Water Treatment with sanitary/potable/ drinking/ Water purification system; (1) unit multi-cartridge filter housing, (WATER LEVEL perimeter fence, capacity of 45 liters/ min.) with Booster/Power Generator, SWIMMING, various divertissement, farm and fishponds area; six (6) units split type and window type air conditioners		Municipal Grassroots, Sitio Pili, Brgy. Nemenzo, Prosperidad	1,600,000.00
LB-083 C	One (1) unit 10HP Submersible Pump, Model 3 1/2 RS Hydrofloat with motor c/w CAT/RUB. chassis on wheel mounted/ skid, complete with accessories		DBP Head Office, Sec. 30 Road Ave., Makati City	500,000.00
LB-084 C	Four (4) units Offset Printing Machines (ANSHAN, Make Hamle, HAMADA)		Cor. Delmy vs. Aaron St., Pateroes Subd., Sto. Niño, Malolos City	911,000.00

a/ With permit(s) not transfer; c/ With Repair occupants; e/ Property transacted by credit; g/ Property foreclosed by Jet mod; i/ Included by broker owned; k/ With Lessee having right to acquire within 5 days from DBP notice of sale; m/ Title under subdivision

NOTE: Sale of property is on "as is, where is" basis in order not only to the property physical condition, but considering/covering as to conflicts to suit, but also the condition of the pertinent Mother Deposition, the extent and rate of whatever rights, interest, and participation over the property may have at time of the sale, if any, and DBP does not undertake to warrant or represent any such matter. Each interested bidder is enjoined to satisfy himself/herself as to the extent of such rights, liens, encumbrances, liabilities and/or damages arising from any subdivision involving the property, accruing from the expiry date of the lease to redemption date, in accordance with law.

BIDDING AND CONDITIONS:

1. The interest shall be paid by interest from actual cut-off by, before the bidding.
2. To submit bids in DBP's official bid form available during office hours at Asset Management - AVDA, 7th Floor, DBP Head Office and
3. No tax or fees, through withholding/deducted at the conveying of bids commences. The sale shall be subject to other terms and conditions which may be imposed by the Bank.

THE DEVELOPMENT BANK RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, TO WAIVE ANY FORMALITY THEREIN, OR TO ACCEPT SUCH BIDS AS MAY BE CONSIDERED MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE BANK, THE DECISION OF THE BOARD IS FINAL AND BINDING.

For inquiries, please call telephone numbers 845-2700/891-7700 loc 1108 or 218-5811 to 20 local 2276 MONDAY TO FRIDAY, 8AM TO 5PM.

ASSET MANAGEMENT - AVDA

(PSA - April 13 & 14, 2011)

BDO

Asset Management

Sale at BDO Car Depot

12% reduction on all car prices. Additional discounts on specially marked vehicles. Promo ends April 30, 2011.

BDO Car Depot is open from Tuesday to Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more details, please call Jamel or Ivy at (02) 702-7700 or 702-7000 or e-mail marketsales@bdo.com.ph

Visit www.bdo.com.ph and access Properties for Sale for the list of cars available for sale.

We find ways

DOUBLE YOUR COLLECTION EFFICIENCY

It Is Time To Improve Your Collection and Cash Flow

May 3, 2011 • 8:00 am - 5:00 pm • ROBC Plaza, Ayala Ave.

Module 1

Strengthening Your Collection Focus and Processes

- The levels and kinds of risks in extending credit
- Objectives of an efficient credit administration system
- Qualities and responsibilities of a credit / collection person
- Objectives of a collection management system
- Developing a responsive collection program
- Steps and stages of receivable and collection

Module 2

Collection Strategies and Tactics

- Workouts and repayment schemes
- Past Dues and bad debts types/ behaviors - Different stories yet behavior
- Types of debtors and their characteristics
- Payment practices of debtors - Issues / factors of non-payment
- Why certain collection practices does not work
- Measuring the results of your collection efforts

Speaker: RICKY DE VERA

SEMINAR INVESTMENT

Early Bird Rate

Regular Rate

Group Rate

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND RESERVATION, CONTACT

POWERMAX CONSULTING GROUP, INC.

Look for LENI at

470-1004 /93

0905-328-4688

09060898814

09233033387

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www.powermaxph.com

POWERMAX

JOB FAIR

CARFER EXPO 2011

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS
- Copy of Death Certificate
- Any identification (minimum of 2 IDs)

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT
MESSAGE OF THANKS
DEATH ANNIVERSARY
REQUIEMS
FREE OBIT DESIGN

"When life was born,
the day when Her story would end had been willed
And no human being could change this.
This is a reality that we must accept -
so that we can move on without much pain and sorrow,
until our own story ends."

Evelyn Baula Alcantara

joined our Creator at the age of 75
on April 11, 2011.
Her beloved spouse, Atty. Samson S. Alcantara,
and children, Edu, Bright + Sammy & Gemma,
and Q-tes
request family and friends to pray
for the eternal repose of her soul.
Her remains lie at the Loyola Chapels in
Commonwealth Avenue, Quezon City.
Interment will be on Thursday, April 14, 2011,
after the 1:00pm funeral mass.

"Even when I walk through a dark valley,
I feel no harm. For you are at my side,
your rod and staff give me courage..."
Psalm 23:4

LEONARDA SUAVILLO SALDAÑA

November 6, 1931 – April 11, 2010

In loving memory, on her 1st Death Anniversary

Masses will be held as follows:

April 10, 2011
St. Aurelia Catholic Church, Guadalupe St., Austin, Texas ..... 5:00 pm

April 11, 2011
Archdiocesan Shrine of St. Joseph, Aurora Blvd., QC ..... 12:00 noon
Sta. Maria Della Strada Parish, Katipunan Ave., QC ..... 6:00 am
Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, Fairview St., Mandaluyong City ..... 7:00 am
St. Catherine of Siena Church, Sofia de la, Bataan, Bataan ..... 8:00 am
Our Lady of the Holy Rosary, Highway, Diwa, Bataan ..... 6:30 am
EDSA Shrine of Mary, Quezon Pkwy, EDSA, Mandaluyong City ..... 6:30 am
..... 7:45 pm
Santuario de San Jose, Crossing the East, Mandaluyong City ..... 7:15 pm
St. Joseph Shrine, Juan Luna St., Cagalingan, Tondo, Manila ..... 6:30 am
St. Catherine of Siena, Mississauga, Ontario ..... 7:00 pm

April 12, 2011
Holy Rosary Parish, Milton, Ontario ..... 8:00 am
St. Ignatius of Loyola Parish, Mississauga, Ontario ..... 7:30 am

April 17, 2011
St. Catherine of Siena, Sinilala St., Bataan, Bataan ..... 6:30 pm
Our Lady of the Holy Rosary, Highway, Diwa, Bataan ..... 6:30 pm
St. Joseph Shrine, Juan Luna St., Cagalingan, Tondo, Manila ..... 6:30 pm
Santuario de San Antonio, McKinley Road, Forbes Park, Makati City ..... 7:00 am

The family requests for the grace unable to pray for her soul.

People, Events & Products

PLDT myDSL's The Awesome Hunt kicks off at Republiq

ET PAUL a night of celebrity sightings and great music starting Point Republiq's summer Party where PLDT myDSL ambassador Bitoy Fuentes unveiled the participants to PLDT myDSL The Awesome Hunt.

The Awesome Hunt, a competition that pits 8 teams of famous and funny Internet users against one another in their quest to come up with the most awesome online record! Internet that will create netizens's passion for adventure. In partnership with the Department of Tourism, the locations for each team's journey is set in eight chosen cities where some of 299,000 additional myDSL lines have been installed to get more households hooked on broadband Internet.

The Awesome Hunt brings together a great cross-section of familiar faces with different passions. Fellow actors, Marvin Abacco and Erik Matti, will be tackling the historic city of Intramuros while Miss Q & A Top Abrigo de Mesa and Ilyna Zaroo from about the matrimony teams of Batangueno. One of the Philippine's most famous tech bloggers, Jayson Fernandez and actor Luis Manzo take on the challenges of covering Las Piñas, and another and non-showbiz personalities JC Mendoza and Bobby Yano Cacnio might never happen to get on the heroes of what makes it so special. Rediscover Quezon City with blogger and famed Manila tour guide Carlos Celdran and columnist-chef Chris Cajiangco, and check out Marikina through the eyes of some of the hottest new IT personalities, Aiamovich showmen Steven Silva and noon time show host Boom Abrenica. Get familiar with Rizal on DJ Mojo Jojo of The Good Times Inn and Between Bites blogger Jane Chua-Ch the same, and even through Cavite with actor and homebrew Mitch Herras and 5-time champion car driver Alex Perez.

The Awesome Hunt begins on April 7, and PLDT myDSL subscribers may follow the teams' progress via Weshpad (by visiting www.pldtmydsl.ipad.com/awesomehunt) and vote for the best online travelogue from April 8 to 24. Once he/she votes will be entered in a one-year free PLDT myDSL subscription, a free trip to a popular summer getaway from Cebu Pacific, a brand new Sony Vaio laptop and Sony Cybershot digital camera and a Philips Party Boss. Jollowcab Pizza Co. and a P50,000 cash prize to be given away by PLDT myDSL.

Follow the Awesome Hunt adventure online. Log on to www.pldtmydsl.ipad.com. See you on #MyIpad! Register now for free.

COVEY HOLDS EXCLUSIVE FORUM FOR UNILAB

One of the world's highly in-demand motivational speakers arrived, Stephen Covey, conducted the opening of the Synod of Trust Executive Forum with the employees of United Laboratories Inc. (Unilab). Covey discussed the value of trust in an organization as a central value and as an economic driver. In this 7 hour talk, Covey stressed on the several elements of trust that are deeply embedded in Unilab's practices which contributed significantly to the company's success over the years.

GERRY'S GRILL DONATES TO FUN RUN BENEFICIARY

Gerry's Grill donates proceeds from the 2010 GMA Foundation Fun Run to the beneficiary proceeds of Pasuyo Gabay. The first Gerry's Grill Endo of Manila Fun Run for a Cause". The Philippines' leading grill restaurant franchise organized over kilometer Subic Bonifacio. Photo shows (from left) Ronie Apodaca, Rosario, Metro Manila manager; Gerry's Grill Gerry Ang, executive president and chief executive officer; Primo Pacific, SVP/Exec. and Paul Mercado, officer; ABS-CBN Foundation. Gerry's Grill has a 23-branch network in the Philippines. For details log on to www.gerrysgrill.com.

Tayo Awards 9th search

Bits Clips

9-K 10th Accomplished Youth Organization Awards Foundation Inc or TAYO Foundation is proud to announce the opening of Tayo 9, the 9th search for the best youth organizations in the country. The Tayo Awards, regarded as one of the leading award-giving bodies for outstanding positive the Philippines, aims to discover and award exceptional youth organizations that have contributed to the development of their local communities, schools or work place, through their innovative and valuable projects. The Tayo Awards, now in its 9th year, is an annual search open to youth groups, organizations, clubs and societies whose membership and leadership are composed of at least 10 members who are 12-30 years old at the time of search. Cash prizes of P50,000 to be given to 10 youth organizations to be honored in the Tayo awards. This year, Tayo aims to be more accessible online, with a newly updated website, www.tayoawards.net. Interested youth organizations can both access information on the current search, and also submit entry forms online. Deadline for submission of entries is July 31. Entry forms may also be downloaded from www.tayo.ph. Text 0917 701-TAYO (829-8296) or e-mail tayo.awards@gmail.com for information about the Tayo search.

Save the world through Nokia's IdeasProject

CAN YOU see your mobile devices to make the world a better place to live in? The online challenge posed by Nokia's IdeasProject, an online community site powered by Nokia in partnership with the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) where anyone can brainstorm and share their ideas centered on how mobile phones and applications can improve our ability to live in a sustainable way. Post your ideas, rate and help human rescue agent www.ideasproject.net, Issue Deadline of submission of ideas is on April 14. The winning idea should benefit the environment either locally or be a solution that would be scalable nationwide or worldwide. The best idea and the winner will be announced on May 27. Winner will be awarded with one of Nokia's new leading devices: Nokia C2, Nokia E6-01, Nokia N8 or Nokia C7. Nokia has the right, but no obligation, to award any additional prizes.

BPI ASSET MANAGEMENT NAMED BEST FUND HOUSE

BPI Asset Management was named at the Best Fund House in the Philippines by Asia Asset Manager magazine in its 2010 Best of the Best Awards. BPI Asset Management bested other companies in the country in terms of achievements and delivery fund manager. Winners are all market-driven in its consumable sizes in achieving the winners, the award also recognizes the progress made in expanding client's bases, stability of management, including investment personnel, operations, client servicing and sales, and innovative education and governance implemented. It also took into consideration the company's record and impact in shaping the country's asset management sector. Asia Asset Management magazine is a monthly publication focused on the institutional fund markets in the Asia Pacific region. Widely read by finance professionals, Asia Asset Management has established an influential readership within the investment community.

HITACHI INNOVATES 2011

Shown during the Hitachi air conditioning product launch last October 2011 with the theme "Advanced Lifestyle. As the World Changes Hitachi Innovates" are (from left) Tsang Fatt-Seong, vice president - marketing; Philippine Hitachi Air Conditioning Products (PHAC) Inc sales manager; Hsu Shu-Ping - Hitachi Air Conditioning Products (PHAC) Inc president - manufacturing director; Chen Hsiao Hao - Hitachi Air Conditioning Products (PHAC) Inc. chief executive officer; Masaaki Masamichi - Taiwan Hitachi Co. Ltd president; Hsu Chun-Tang - Taiwan Hitachi Co. Ltd general manager; Zhang Yong-Chuan - Taiwan Hitachi Co. Ltd manager - international sales division; Tu Hsiao-Yi - Hitachi Air Conditioning Products (PHAC) Inc vice president - sales division.

Kythe Foundation holds April volunteer orientation

KYTHE FOUNDATION, a non-stock, non-profit organization catering to psycho-social needs of pediatric cancer patients, is holding an orientation program this April, which intends to provide basic training for volunteers who want to help young cancer patients. The orientation seminar involves interested volunteers on the organization's activities and its roles. Volunteers will also be briefed on understanding the psychosocial needs of different age groups of young cancer patients, as well as their limitations and interventions that are appropriate for them. This month's seminar will be held on April 16, 10 a.m. at Room 305 Kohler Place in Camino City, Magallanes Ave. P200 per person. Interested individuals must be at least 18 years old. For more information, contact Kythe volunteer program manager Sharon Briones at 376-3556 or 0918-902-2286.

LOAD-OUT OF REFINERY MODULES

President Benigno S. Aquino III was the guest of honor at the load-out of two 400-ton modules for an oil refinery in Indiana, USA. The steel modules were fabricated by Atlantic Gulf and Pacific (AGP) in Batangas. Below, AGP president and CEO Ramon Ang, Philippine construction and allied industries company was contracted by Petron Corporation, North America and Fluor Enterprises Utah to fabricate and deliver 91 oil refinery modules with each module weighing 17,500 tons. Above are (from left) Petron Corporation President Ramon S. Ang; Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) Secretary Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz; Secretary of Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) Marianito Roque; Vice Governor of Batangas and Josie A. Bonamaterra; AGP president and senior advisor.

Republic of the Philippines * Office of the President

HOME GUARANTY CORPORATION

Salutes its partners in Housing Finance

During its Clients Appreciation Night in observance of its 18th Charter Day Celebration at the Rigodon Ballroom, The Peninsula Manila, Makati City on March 30, 2011.

EXCELLENCE AWARDS:

IN HOUSING FINANCE

BPI Family Bank - Thrift Bank
Banking Industry

Home Development Mutual Fund (Pag-IBIG)
Gov't. Financial Institution's Industry

Ayala Land
Housing Developer's Industry

Coconut Planters Life
Insurance Industry

IN CREATIVE FUND SOURCING AND MOBILIZATION

Cityland Group
for its Commercial Paper Issuance

National Home Mortgage Finance Corp.
for its Bailey Bond

Pueblo De Oro Development Corporation
for its Corporate Notes Issuance

IN SHELTER DEVELOPMENT

Tahanan Mutual Building and Loan Assoc. (PLDT Group)

Union Bank of the Philippines

IN HOUSING THE LOW-INCOME SECTOR

Philippine Savings Bank

IN COUNTRYSIDE HOUSING DEV'T.

Rural Bank of Zambales

IN SHELTER DEVELOPMENT FOR OFWS

Filinvest Land Inc.

"In support of the government's thrust to provide more shelter to more people, we are proud to have HGC as a strategic partner..."

"Thanks to HGC for the work that they've done that allowed us to effectively reduce our lending cost."

"The HGC program has strengthened us..."

"HGC is helping us to build confidence, so that we can make more houses for our countrymen. Thank them time and time again."

"Of course our bonds are zero risk, because we are backed up by the sovereign guaranty through the Home Guaranty Corporation."

"We are proud to be partners with HGC in helping to solve one of the major problems in the Philippines which is adequate shelter for all our people."

"HGC has been our partner in providing risk coverage or guaranty for our housing loans. We look forward to partnering again with HGC in the years to come."

"We hope that we continue to garner your growth as you have garnered ours..."

"Our success wouldn't be possible without the support of HGC."

"We are proud to be part of this national endeavor to provide housing loans to our OFWs/overseas..."

HON. JEJOMAR C. BINAY
Vice President, Republic of the Philippines
Chairman, Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council

Home Guaranty Corporation Officers and Employees

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